

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

SOCCER

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WEEKLY

INSIDE - NSL LIFTOUT WITH DRAW FOR SEASON



HERE WE GO!

BY TOM ANDERSON

THE 1991-92 NSL season will blast-off this weekend in an aura of anticipation, hope and ever lasting optimism.

The participating clubs and coaches are anticipating a good year and hoping for success.

The administration for its part, is quite optimistic, that this will be the season when the competition really takes off.

For the fans, the greatest dilemma of all will be — whether the game is to be accepted as a sacred ritual or a social entertainment?

Time will tell on this one.

In this season of a revamped competition, the race for honours will again be a highly competitive one.

Whether or not the newcomers, Brisbane United, Newcastle Breakers and West Adelaide, can be included in this race, is in the lap of the Gods at the present time.

Maybe more important for them, it will be a season of consolidation.

Big guns South Melbourne, Marconi, Adelaide City, Melbourne Croatia, Sydney Croatia, Sydney Olympic and Melita will no doubt, once again, be the front runners.

Defending champions South Melbourne again look very strong and Marconi and Sydney Croatia in particular have recruited well during the off season.

The hard working NSL coaches have prepared their teams long and hard for the coming campaign.



Bobby Catlin of Marconi

BLACKTOWN CITY THE NSW CHAMPIONS - page 3

What ABSW says . . .

A major problem the NSL must come to grips with during the coming season is the difference between 'spectators' and 'supporters'.

It was an issue addressed by a Philips Soccer League report way back in 1981, but since, seemingly forgotten.

The report at that time read: "Our clubs already have 'supporters' — albeit few in number.

"These are the people who regularly watch and follow a club's progress week in and week out throughout the playing season.

"At every available opportunity they will attend home games, and for a hand-

ful, their devotion to the club extends to even travelling and attending our away games if played in the home city.

"Our spectators are the people who we are attracting to a social outing to watch a club, and a soccer match for fun and leisure.

"They have elected to do so as an alternative to mowing the lawn, reading a book, going for a picnic, going to the movies, decorating the house or attending an alternative sport.

"These we do not have in any significant number.

"Soccer and Philips Soccer League club matches are not perceived as a

leisure activity.

"We have the 'supporter' — the people who avidly follow and support our club on any occasion.

"We do not have the 'spectator' — the people who can enjoy a 'cursory' relationship with a club for motivations other than an undying love and support of the game, the players, the coach, the ethnic heritage, or the club's ranking on the championship table.

"First you are a 'spectator'. Then if you like what you see you become a 'supporter'."

Times it seems have not changed since 1981.

—THE EDITOR

The battle for goals!

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

An amazing run which has seen Fairfield neighbors Sydney Croatia and Marconi produce the NSW leading goalscorer for six successive seasons must eventually come to an end - but it will take a brave man to bet against it con-

tinuing for at least one more year.

In what can only be described as a freak sequence which commenced with former Croatia striker Graham Arnold taking the award in 1986, Frank Farina finished on top with Marconi in the following two seasons and Zlatko Nastic kept the title at Bossley Park in 1989. David Seal created a record when he became the league's

youngest ever leading goalscorer as an 18-year-old sensation with Croatia in 1990, then repeated the effort last season after his \$35,000 transfer to Marconi.

The Young Soccerer, who rejected a number of big offers to join the exodus overseas after the Youth Championships in Portugal, has now set his mind on completing a hat-trick in what may turn out to be his final season in Australia. If he can succeed in creating yet another record by winning the goalscoring race for three years in a row before he turns 21, it would be a truly remarkable exploit, worthy of an entry in the Guinness book of records.

Should Seal fail in his extraordinary quest, however, Sydney Croatia giant striker Tony Krslovic looks well placed to take over the mantle and continue the astonishing run of the two Fairfield clubs.

Under former Rijeka coach Mladen Vrankovic, a rejuvenated Croatia can easily turn out to be a dark horse of the coming season. With the midfield promptings of recent arrivals Miro Stipic and Fadilj Muriqi from Rijeka, together with experienced playmaker Ivan Petkovic, Krslovic may yet succeed in finally taking the title which has narrowly eluded him for the last two seasons.

In pre-season matches so far both Seal and Krslovic have looked razor sharp, which augurs well for the new campaign. The invaluable international experience gained in Portugal must give Seal an even measure of maturity to his game.

As for Krslovic, playing in a side which is determined to challenge strongly for the championship rather than merely settling for survi-



DAVID SEAL

val could make that all important difference.

Fairfield fans who have increasingly made a habit of watching both teams in action on alternate weekends have been more fortunate than most in seeing some of the game's greatest goalscorers over the years and the new season promises to continue in the same vein.

Of course, the possibility of a new goalscoring sensation being suddenly discovered must always exist in the National League and while the likes of Melbourne Croatia striker Ivan Kelic are around nothing can be predicted with any certainty.

But on the evidence of the last couple of years it's mighty hard to get past either Seal or Krslovic finishing on top of the heap at the end of it all - and the now customary tradition of either one of the two Fairfield sides producing the league's leading goalscorer will carry on relentlessly.

United look fine

Brisbane United coach Miron Bleiberg is convinced his team won't be outclassed in the revamped National League this season.

He takes umbrage at suggestions the club is badly organised and unprepared for the 1991/92 season.

He claims the club has signed many new players of quality and that its administrative side is also in a healthy situation.

The club, he stresses, is definitely run on professional lines.

The club has yet to obtain a major sponsor, but Brisbane United is financially solvent after receiving a \$5000 contribution from each of the 24 Queensland clubs that backed the entry of a Queensland unit in the new State National League.

Brisbane United spokesman Pat McErlean says the critics will have to eat their words when the league gets under way.

He claims his team will be competitive and more importantly, Brisbane United will not be starting the season owing heaps of money like many NSL clubs.

Big George

Socceroo defender George Jolevski is back in Australia after completing his first season in the Malaysian National League.

Jolevski, who played for Kedah, who only managed eighth place in the professional league, bought out his contract from Preston Maceftia and joined Sydney Croatia on the eve of the National League season.

It is believed it cost him more than \$20,000 to buy out his transfer, but he recouped his money

when the Malaysian club signed him a week after he bought out his contract.

Jolevski, as per the terms of his contract with Kedah, was given a free release.

Having quit Preston on not too amicable terms, it was never likely he would rejoin them.

So when Sydney Croatia, who have ambitions of regaining their lost glories this season, contacted him, he jumped at the chance of moving to Sydney.

—LOU GAUTIER

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

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Dynamic Demons



DYNAMIC Blacktown City are the NSW Champions after a scintillating performance in Sunday's Grand Final.

GRAND FINAL

BLACKTOWN CITY 3
CANBERRA METRO 0

CANBERRA Metro never recovered after going behind to two goals in a two minute spell within the first twenty minutes of the game and eventually went down 3-0 to home town favourites City.

The play had been as much Canberra's way as the Demons in the first few minutes. Stan Dukic did well in the 7th minutes for the Canberra side setting up Tony Lemezina with a heading opportunity.

Steve Vanzetti's cross from the left had eluded Andy Ravenello initially, the ball sent over a second time by Dukic was well struck by Lemezina, but Blacktown's big custodian Mike Gibson was equal to the task.

Blacktown hit the front in the 17th minute.

Geoff Gunning was already beginning to make his presence felt by this stage and the former Marconi star was to have a profound influence on



the outcome of this game.

Gunning flicked the ball on to Eddie Lees on the left side of the area and Lees came up with a shot similar to the one which gave Canberra victory in the Under-19 curtain raiser.

The awkward angled shot nestled in the top right corner sending the vocal Blacktown fans delirious.

Gunning exchanged passes with tan Suman in the 19th minute and the 6'4" Suman, recalled to the attack when Lawrie McKinna broke a leg on



GEOFF GUNNING: Brilliant game

the same ground two weeks earlier, showed a cool head to steer the ball past the advancing Paul Jones and into the bottom left corner of the net.

Suman's shot from about 15 metres and from wide on the right must have knocked the stuffing out of Tom Sermani's boys, but they didn't

show it.

Instead they made a great game of it and the crowd was the big winner as the two sides provided a fine exhibition of State League soccer in front of a pleasingly large crowd.

It was still Blacktown that piled on the pressure, however, and Gunning

was devastating in surging past two defenders in the 27th minute, but his firm angled shot only ruffled the side netting this time.

Stan Suman was ready to converge on a cross by Paul Bourke in the 29th but tall defender Mladen Rogic intervened with a timely interception.

Dominic Longo, in the familiar role of a central defender coming up for set plays, heading the ball goalward in the 30th, but it was saved on the line by Paul Jones, who was somewhat cramped for room and did well to gather the ball.

Zoran Pratezina headed over the bar for Canberra in the 43rd, but it looked like a long haul ahead for the out of town visitors.

Blacktown was able to keep Canberra out under a barrage of pressure during the second period, managing some rare counter attacks which eventually allowed them to snare an 87th minute clincher.

The 45 minutes after

the interval was full of excitement and the possibility of a Canberra fight back was always there.

One minute after the restart Stan Dukic took a long throw on the right, which was headed on towards the far post by Michael Musitano. Longo missed a chested clearance and Mike Gibson was forced to grab the ball quickly before Lemezina could pounce.

The Demons hit back immediately, Scott Xeureb providing the link which led to Stan Suman's through pass for Paul Bourke in the 48th. Bourke, ever the tireless worker, skimmed the bar as Jones climbed high to reach the sparkling shot.

Tony Lemezina was a lurking presence up front and it was his sharpness in stealing possession in the 49th that should have led to a goal for his side.

He cut the ball back from the byline, but, under the attention of a defender, Zoran Pratezina lifted the ball over the bar from the range of two metres.

Much was expected of Andy Ravenello after some vital goals in the lead up games and the cme close to fulfilling that promise with some good work in the 54th. He made a beeline for the goal after winning the ball in centre field and his firm shot was saved well at the foot of the post by the in-form Gibson.

A minute later the normally reliable Lemezina failed to connect with a header after Pratezina had put over a good cross from the left.

Paul Jones showed his mettle in the 61st minute, coming outside the area to tackle Stan Suman effectively after the Blacktown man had looked set to score on the break. As Jones rushed back to defend his goal, Darren Northam was denied by the efforts of John Koch who plucked the ball off the left back's toes as he too looked ready to plunder a goal.

That wasn't the end of

the Canberra attacking force on the day, but they had nothing to show for repeated sallies forward and it became increasingly clear that this was to be the Demons' Day and not theirs.

Craig Williams was denied by Jones in the 86th, his scorching shot being turned away for a corner and it was left to the forceful Geoff Gunning to have the last word.

Darren Northam switched the direction of play from the left side by sending over a pass to Scott Xeureb, who in turn put John Gibson away on the right.

Gibson was able to cut the ball back from the right byline for Gunning to score with the simplest of headers at the far post, a goal he simply deserved.

Once the issue was settled Peter Bennett was called into the action in place of Xeureb, Bennett, perhaps suffering from big match nerves, had been ill before the game and his misfortune gave a last minute berth in the side to Northam.

Bennett had been an integral part of the Blacktown success story all season and had done well in the finals series. Along with the injured McKinna, Bennett was able to join in the on-pitch celebrations once the game was over and was on the spot to see Craig Mason lift the Championship trophy for Blacktown for the first time.

BLACKTOWN CITY: Mike Gibson, Damon Langgan, Dominic Longo, Craig Mason, Darren Northam, Eddie Lees, Craig Williams, Scott Xeureb (Peter Bennett 87), Paul Bourke, Stan Suman (John Gibson 74), Geoff Gunning.

CANBERRA METRO: Paul Jones, Doug Marcina (Bruce Grassick 74), Steve Vanzetti, Mladen Rogic, John Koch, Zoran Pratezina, Joe Gagliardi, Michael Musitano, Andy Ravenello, Tony Lemezina, Stan Dukic.

REFEREE: Gary Power. **Official attendance:** 3,357.

Metros take out under-19s

UNDER-19 GRAND FINAL

CANBERRA METRO 1
SUTHERLAND SHIRE 0

ONE piece of magic by the team's and the competition's leading scorer, Daniel Macor, seven minutes from the end of extra time was sufficient to give Canberra Metro victory over the somewhat shot-shy Sutherland Shire Sharks in the Under-19 Grand Final.

Sutherland had managed to progress to the big one with narrow wins at each of their top five games and had been well served by their defence, particularly goalkeeper Nigel Noffke.

Chris Condoleon, their effervescent skipper, had done much to lift this Sutherland side throughout the series and seemed to be involved in every move forward once again.

Once the Sharks had soaked up the early Canberra pressure, they looked set to frustrate their capital city opponents, finding the necessary scoring touch as the game wore on.

That elusive goal never came, although the Metros were forced to clear their lines on more

than one occasion.

Canberra made most of the early running and entertained the already big crowd on a perfect spring afternoon at The Gabbie. Takis Arvanitis was wide with his shot in the 5th minute after Nigel Noffke failed to collect a cross from the left by Pat Cosentini.

Seven minutes later Chris Condoleon had to clear off the Sutherland line when Daniel Macor fired in a sharp close range shot, following a corner on the right by David Milin.

Brother Tom Milin set up midfield dynamo Jason Swan with a square pass in the 20th, but the shot was narrowly wide of the target.

As the first half progressed Sutherland began to assert themselves more and Simon Murray could have given them a shock 35 minute lead, but turned the ball wide of the left upright after a smart cross from the right by Condoleon.

Then two minutes before the break, Luke Jones's header from close range went just over after Scott Connors had put over a perfect cross.

The second half saw Sutherland take the game to Canberra and in the 58th Paul Gagliardi had to clear the ball off the line when a series of shots

resulted from a free kick on the edge of the area.

In the 66th a similar incident occurred, twice the line was almost breached before the ball fell to Mark Allingham who, faced with an open net, managed to scoop the ball wide of the post.

The game became more even towards the end of the scheduled ninety minutes, Paul Gagliardi heading over in the 72nd after a deep ball in by half time replacement Zvonimir Rakic.

At the other end Denis Maricic saved a Jason Bard shot from point blank range to keep the Sharks at bay in the 88th. Moments later Noffke performed a similar feat, denying Macor who had latched onto a ball supplied by Tom Milin.

When the game moved into extra time, the prospect of a penalty shoot-out loomed large, with Sutherland's past experiences making them favourites in that situation.

They weren't needed, because of Daniel Macor, a prominent indoor soccer exponent whose close ball skills allowed him to net a goal out of absolutely nothing.

He received the ball wide on the left and barely looked up before sending in a dipping acute angled shot which sailed into the top right corner

of the goal, surprising players and fans alike.

The range was about twenty metres, but it was the angle that stunned the crowd. His left foot drive powered its way across the pitch and left Noffke no time to react, three minutes into the ten extra minutes of play.

Macor almost helped his side make it 2-0 as the game moved into its final five minutes phase. He slipped a pass to Josip Srktic, but the low, firm shot was dealt with well by the Sutherland 'keeper.

It was a plucky performance by the Sharks in an even match, with plenty of skills on display. The lack of a clear-cut striking combination counted against Sutherland whose defence did everything expected of it until that fateful Macor pice of brilliance.

SUTHERLAND: Nigel Noffke, Rob Liddell, Philip Walker, Luke Jones, Mark Allingham, Chris Condoleon, Scott Connors (Grant McDonald 90), John Massarotti, Simon Murray, Aaron Harris, Brendan Groll (Jason Bard 75).

CANBERRA METRO: Dennis Maricic, John Simic, David Milin, Paul Gagliardi, Atne Juric, Takis Arvanitis, Tom Milin, Pat Cosentini (Josip Srktic 77), Daniel Macor, Jason Swan, Lazar Simeonov (Zvonimir Rakic 46).

REFEREE: Greg Levertor.

NEW SOUTH WALES SOCCER FEDERATION LIMITED

wishes to thank

AUSTRALIAN & BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY

—O—

Editor Tom Anderson and specialist writers
Paul Goodwin and Alistair Russell

—O—

**FOR THE EXCELLENT COVERAGE
OF THE 1991 NSW SEASON**

Buchanan will hit the surf

BY PAUL GOODWIN

AN unsung hero of the well regarded Rockdale Ilinden State League side, Richard Buchanan, 24, is looking forward to a summer break now that the club has been eliminated from the Top Five series.

Although enjoying his soccer and prepared to return to the NSL stage, on which he previously stepped with Melita, if he is given a call, Buchanan is not pushing himself hard to achieve great heights again, enjoying the summer activities of wind surfing and water skiing, plus a bit of tennis.

The giant centre back began his soccer life as a member of the Hills Independent club in the Baulkham Hills District competition at the age of six and graduated to the third grade side of the Federation Third Division club Baulkham Hills, later to become Hills United.

An early influence was Bill Smith who coached Richard at Hills Independent and this man then turned him over to former Hakoah and Ku-ring-gai identity John Cole, then in charge of the Baulkham Hills side.

The transition from Third Grade to First Grade was swift and at 19 Richard was recommended by Cole to Jimmy Gallagher who was assisting Dennis Hoggart at Melita at the time.

It wasn't long before Buchanan made his



Richard Buchanan in action for Rockdale

First Grade debut with the National League side and remembers that occasion vividly.

A goal down against Sydney City, the then

attacking midfielder set up the two goals which sunk Alex Robertson's men.

Later, when the Sydney City club folded, Robertson was quick to remind Buchanan of his feat, although by that stage Hoggart had converted him to a defender.

This was the first time he had filled this role having played striker and midfield originally and his game blossomed.

He left Melita when his studies intervened and found his way to Rockdale when Dennis Hoggart took over there for a short while a couple of seasons ago.

He has been there ever since and has commanded a First Grade spot with little challenge. Now settled totally into the role of defender, Buchanan still enjoys moving forward to help the attack, but sees his days as a permanent member of the attack as being behind him now.

Richard left Castle Hill High School and earned a Bachelor of Engineering degree from the University of New South Wales, having

studied metallurgy. This propelled him towards his present position in sales as an applications engineer with Kel Air Pumps.

Because of his career development he is happy to continue playing soccer at an enjoyable level, believing that for all players of any age this is the purpose of involvement.

Buchanan may have a future as a coach or as an administrator when his playing days are over. His interest in and concern for the organisation of the semi-professional game is keenly felt.

His thoughts on the arrangements for the Top Five series are worth a mention, for example.

The venues for the various games were selected before the series commenced and at the request of some clubs, a few matches were switched away from the Gabbie Stadium to grounds in the southern suburbs.

Richard feels that there was no need to announce venues for any games until the competing teams were known,

as is the practice overseas in similar knockout competitions.

His club Rockdale played against Blacktown at the Demons' own ground, The Gabbie, and was eliminated, but the Ilinden captain made these comments well before that game was staged, so it is not a case of sour grapes.

Another criticism, shared by many of those involved in this series, is that the games are too spread out and it is hard to maintain an interest for players who have a break of up to three weeks between commitments.

For the benefit of the teams and their supporters he is also convinced that the yellow card system is due for review.

Cards pile up towards the end of a season and many players are unable to play in one or more of the Top Five games due to cards handed out in the last round or one of the semi-final games, thus denying spectators seeing full strength teams in action.

It is widely known that players will ensure

that they are given a card deliberately, in order to miss specific games, rather than have the threat hanging

over their heads for weeks at a time as vital matches come into sight.

Buchanan suggests special fine system or delays to suspensions until the start of the next season, when the Finals are under way.

These measures would still penalise the player, but not the club or, more importantly, the spectators and a doubled suspension or bigger fines could cover transgressions during the finals.

After all, we are in the entertainment business and the players recognise this.

There is no shortage of ideas emanating from the players in our State League and many of them are worth listening to.

Another gripe is that end of season holidays for players were difficult to organise, especially for those who wished to try out for NSL clubs and still have a rest.

As far as the State Super League is concerned, Buchanan is pleased to see ground standards being a major consideration, as most players are not happy with the sub-standard surfaces of many grounds and understand the need to provide spectator comforts.

But the issue of amalgamations is still a score point. Richard plays with a Macedonian club, but firmly believes that the two Sydney clubs, Rockdale and Sydney Macedonia should be persuaded to combine and many other ethnic clubs which could join forces should be made to do so.

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

PRESENTATION EVENING



★ FRIDAY OCTOBER 11 7PM ★
BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB
6 GREENFIELD PARADE
BANKSTOWN

☆ TICKETS \$30ea may be purchased from the NSW Soccer Federation before 30.9.91.
☆ TABLE BOOKINGS can be made for 8/10 persons

☆ DRESS strictly formal — black tie.

PRESENTATIONS

- Federation Medal — Best & Fairest
- Players' Player of the Year
- Premiership Trophies, State Leagues 1 & 2 (both grades), Federation Leagues 3/7, Women's State League.
- Leading scorers, SL 1 & 2 (both grades).
- Best & Fairest Awards, State League 1 & 2, Federation League 3, Womens State League.
- Referee of the Year.
- Fair Play Awards, State Leagues 1 & 2, Federation League 3.

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Handy Andy must be find of the season

Club challenge

THE NSW and Victorian Federations have set up an Interstate Club Challenge with tremendous future potential, which features the premier teams of both states.

Peter Thorne, the general manager of host state NSW, said: "We believe the match between Sutherland Shire and Brunswick Juventus will be the first of a series."

"Our aim is to see it grow within a few years to a major event — one which will incorporate the top clubs from other states as well."

The match will be held as part of a double header program on Sunday, October 13 at 2pm at Concord Oval.

The other game, timed for 4pm, will be a torrid National League encounter between Apia-Leichhardt and Adelaide City.

Sutherland coach Bill Rigby said that his squad will remain in full training.

Everyone is extremely keen to come out victorious in what is the first event of this nature for State League teams," he added.

The Victorian outfit is under the guidance of Billy Rogers, who won the Apia and South Melbourne fans with his precise brand of football at the height of his long and illustrious career.

Sutherland will miss the services of Mike O'Shea, now with Wollongong City, and Shane Clinch, who is back with Apia.

The visitors have skipper Jeff Doyle and midfielder Reno Minichiello both now in Sydney with Apia for the NSL season, whilst Brian MacNichol has joined Heidelberg.

Whilst these quality players are unavailable, both clubs fully realise that the honour of their respective states is on the line.

They are determined to prove themselves in interstate company and at the same time provide top entertainment for the fans.

ALTHOUGH barely 168cm tall, young Andy Ravello's cool finishing has seen him standing tall as one of the revelations of the 1991 State Soccer League season.

The 18 year old striker's flame that has been in the thick of the action just when Canberra Metro needed him most.

He began the season in the under 19 side, and admits that he had a "dry spell" after moving into the first team.

Overall he had 16 first team starts, recording just three league goals in the process.

In the scoring stakes he was headed by team mates Tony Lemezina (10), Paul Foster (6) and John Koch (5), and equalled by Zoran Pratezina on three.

It was Foster's sudden transfer to Happy Valley club in Hong Kong that gave Ravello his chance to star.

Coach Tom Sermanni said: "We had the chance to collect good money for Paul, who wanted to try himself out in Asia."

"It was a pity to lose his services in a way, but the club's interests had to come first."

"Andrew Ravello is a strong youngster, and he certainly justified his place in the side in the Top Five games."

In the preliminary semi-final at the Gabrie Stadium, with the score locked at 2-2 and six minutes play remaining, Ravello got on the end of a ball and gave the impressive Mike Gibson no chance of a save from 12 metres range.

Then in the major semi-final at St George Stadium he came up trumps once again.

With the game scoreless and the crowd anticipating extra time, Canberra Metro applied the pressure.

Stan Dukic sent one over from the corner, Tony Lemezina headed it on, and Ravello eluded a bunched defence to place a determined header just inside the near post.

Sutherland's alert keeper Paul Dart didn't have a ghost of a chance.

Tom Sermanni is a great believer in Ravello's future.

"He's a got exceptional strength, and that is just one factor that will stand him in good stead for the future," he said.

Ravello is not without his determination as well.

Back in April 1989 he was in Canberra's Calvary Hospital, having two vertebrae fused together.

The difficult operation was a complete success, and he was back in training by the following October.

Well known Canberra physiotherapist Richard Beasley can attest to the way that the youngster soon got back into his stride.

"He's gone from strength to strength, and he has youth on his side as well," Beasley commented.



Stan Dukic

With Canberra Metro's commitments over for the season, Ravello will now be concentrating for a while on scooting around Canberra in his job as a

courier for the Health Insurance Commission.

And looking forward to a big 1992 season in the new NSW Super League.

It's the big night

THE popular Bankstown Sports Club has been chosen as the locale for this year's NSW Soccer Federation Presentation Evening.

The big event takes place on Friday, October 11, and the kick off time is 7pm.

This is the social event of the year for all clubs in the NSW Soccer Federation, and no expense has been spared to make it a huge success.

As usual a top class entertainer will be on the bill, and this time it is well known Shaun Cramer.

The vote for the Federation Medal for Player of the Year seems bound to be close.

Amongst the leading group of contenders are expected to be Osvaldo El Ali (Avala), Robbie O'Shea (Sutherland), Dominic Longo (Blacktown City), Doug Marcina (Canberra Metro), Zlatko Markov-

ski (Rockdale Ilinden), Charlie Yankos (Canterbury Marrickville) and Ralph Maier (BHP Austral).

Another big event is the announcement of the Players' Player of the Year, an award that has such a real footballing flavour about it that everyone can readily appreciate its significance.

Many other trophies are awarded for premierships in all divisions, top scorers, Best and Fairest players and Fair Play Awards for leading clubs.

Last but not least is the trophy for the selection as the Referee of the Year.

Details for tickets and table bookings can be seen in the Federation advertisement.

Be sure to contact the Federation office on 02 629 1800 to purchase your tickets immediately, as arrangements, including table bookings for 8/10 persons, must be made without delay.




**MONDAY
OCT. 7**

MELITA EAGLES vs SYDNEY OLYMPIC

3PM

MELITA STADIUM

YOUTH LEAGUE 1PM



Gerry Gomez in action

Melita Eagles are proudly sponsored by

**AIR MALTA
RHEEM AUST**

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

OFFICIAL LIVE-IN SOCCER CAMPS

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

OFFICIAL LIVE-IN SOCCER CLINICS

Under the direction of the-
State Director of Coaching

Five (5) days — 13th to 17th January, 1992
Total Cost: **\$295.00**

Open to girls and boys aged 10 to 15.
The cost includes:-

1. Air conditioned accommodation
2. TV and refrigerators
3. Home style meals
4. Swimming
5. Indoor soccer
6. Latest videos
7. A new ball
8. Official t-shirt



Coaching will be conducted by qualified coaches following the latest "Elite Player" Program.

The course will also include lectures on "Motivation" and "Decision Making".

The course will be limited to fifty four (54) candidates.

To enrol, telephone Tricia immediately on 629-1800 to obtain an application form.

Chit Chat ... Chit Chat ... Chit Chat



ADELAIDE City is to stage a special penalty shootout competition for schoolkids during half-time breaks at this season's home NSL games.

A grand final will be held at the end of the season.

Local schools have been invited to take part.

Meanwhile, City's official supporters' club, the Zebras, is off and running with several progressive plans for the new season.

TWICE champion Manchester City will defend its British Supporters' Club crown on Sunday, October 20, at Tubemakers ground.

Teams from Manchester Utd, Rangers, Celtic, Liverpool, Chelsea, Sunderland, Leeds, Arsenal and a Midlands XI will clash.

For details on the day, sponsored by suppliers of live TV English soccer action, World Sports Club and John Phelan of the Professionals Real Estate (Modbury and Salisbury), contact Mick Phillips on 250-3761.

A LIMIT of 100 coaches has been set for the Level 2 General Principles of Coaching (Part B) course next month in Adelaide.

For entry fee of \$75, coaches will undergo a program, comprising concepts related to task of coach; acquisition of skill, anatomy and sports performance, sports injuries, biomechanics, physiology.

The course will run at the SA Sports Institute on October 28 and 30; November 4, 6, 11 and 13. There will be a practical session on November 10 and assessment on November 18.

A Level 2 (Part A) course is scheduled for Adelaide City's colts grounds on October 5, 6, 13 and 14. Laws of the game and theory exam paper will be on Wednesday, October 16 at Hindmarsh. Cost is \$40.

John Evans is course instructor.

Contact State Director of coaching, Carlos Buzzetti at the SA Soccer Federation, Hindmarsh Stadium, for details of all courses.

The GPS and CAS lads put on a great show



Action from the Grand Final

The annual Combined CAS and GPS games were held at St Aloysius' College Oval, Willoughby on Saturday, September 7.

This is acknowledged as the best venue in the Combined Independent Schools group and provided a fitting finale for the penultimate games of the season.

The CAS established soccer within the group as a sport in the 1960s with both Cranbrook and Knox setting up teams in local competitions. From there growth and development has seen the sport become very strong within these six schools.

The GPS schools adopted the sport in the 1970s, but it took until the 1980s before it became a fully adopted sport. In 1980 the first official competition season was held. Since then the annual Combined fixtures have taken on increased importance and provide for some very competitive games.

POST SCRIPT
The seventh Independent

Schools Cup Final was won by Moriah College in a penalty-shootout against Barker College last Thursday at Christie Park.

This is the first Non-Aligned Schools group (NAS) to win the Cup contested by 19 schools and to be expanded to a 21 schools elimination Competition in 1992.

CAS have had an advantage in strength and performance in recent years but following the introduction of three Grades in 1991 the GPS schools have 'come of age', and completed an historic 'whitewash' winning all three games without conceding a goal.

In the First Grade, GPS mounted a hurried and persistent attack very early and gained two early goals before consolidating with a third before half-time.

The CAS were full of running and vigour in the second-half, but failed to convert opportunities.

In the Second Grade, a real grafting battle between two very even

teams provided the closest game of the day with GPS gaining two second-half goals to gain victory.

In the Third Grade, the injury-torn CAS were no match for the very confident and well-drilled GPS team who ran out winners by five goals.

Each of the teams competing displayed the development that has occurred within the Independent Schools in the 1980s as clearly indicated by the narrow 4-5 loss to the CHS (1) team by the CIS Team at the July State Championships.

Three of the players from these teams are in the NSWSSA team to tour South-East Asia in December/January and from this will expand the sport within Non-Government schools.

Final scores:
1st Grade- GPS 3 (Cullen, Harris, Zabetakis) bt CAS 0.

2nd Grade- GPS 2 (Cotton, Comminos) bt CAS 0.

3rd Grade- GPS 5 (Green 2, Hartigan 2, Morrow) bt CAS 0.

The ACT Federation's presentation dinner, which honours the First Division's Player of Year, will be held at the Roma Restaurant in Jamison on Thursday, October 17 at 7pm.

Tickets are available at \$28 a head from the federation office in Sports House, Hackett and further information can be obtained from the office on 248-0614.

Canberra Metro Youth midfielder Paul Roberts' season finished early after doctors diagnosed damaged bones in both feet. Roberts, one of the mainstays of the young Metros, will spend the next eight weeks in plaster.

Both injuries are old. A stress fracture in his right foot was the result of a heavy tackle earlier in the season while doctors think the other injury could have been

done up to six months ago.

"Paul has been able to play up to now, but the injuries have caught up with him at just the wrong time," team manager and assistant youth coach Richard Beazley said.

The injuries have put paid to the youngster's hopes of breaking into the Quit National League this summer. He had had trials lined up with Apia Leichhardt and Adelaide City.

Canberra University's Sevens tournament on October 19 will consist of two senior men's competitions and one youth section, organisers say.

More than \$1000 worth of prize money will be offered although university club secretary Ken MacDougall says the exact amount will depend on the number of entries.

Sydney Croatia have appointed Mark Bosnich as their QNSL Development Officer. Mark, one of the stars of the young Socceroos in Portugal will be a great asset to the NSL Development Program and to the Sydney Croatia Club.

Anissa Tann has been re-appointed Captain of the Female Socceroos to tour New Zealand in October. This will be her third time as Captain for an International Series.

Good to see Socceroos working in the game with the kids! Gerry Gomez will be running a school holiday clinic at Astrolabe Park with many Socceroos acting as coaches. Gerry has a great rapport with the young kids.

Squad ready for big Kiwi tour!

Australian Women's Soccer coach John Reid recently announced his 19 member national squad for a tour to New Zealand from 19-27 October.

Reid's selection was based on including key experienced players together with new younger players which should evolve into the core of the next World Cup squad.

Reid's first opportunity to see his team in action will be in three tests against the Kiwis. New Zealand has qualified for the 1st World Cup, which will be played in China in November, so the Aussies will provide valuable competition for the Kiwis.

Reid said that he will be aiming to put together a squad that will do very well in international competition over the next few years. In 1992 Reid will announce an Under-23 squad which will add to his overall World Cup campaign.

The team to tour New Zealand will be selected from the following squad: Tracey Wheeler (WA), Sarah Cooper, Jane Oakley (Vic), Sharon Black, Sonia Gegenhuber, Tracey Jenkins (SA), Donna Fredrickson, Kaylene Janssen, Michelle Sawyers (Sth Qld), Anissa Tann, Moya Dodd, Sharon Young, Janine McPhee, Katrina Boyd (NSW), Angela Iannotta (ACT), Linda Hughes, Alison Forman, Debra Bonshore, Lisa Dunn (NNSW).

The additional players selected for an Under-23 training camp include Julie Murray and Alex Focken (ACT), Traci Bartlett and Lisa Van Dorp (NSW), Lizzie Claydon (WA), and Carolyn Jones (Tas).

Members of the 1992 junior and youth squads will also be considered

for selection in the Under-23 squad.

For further information contact:
Heather Reid-Executive Director Ph 06 248-5834 Fax 06 257-6990.



JULIE MURRAY



MICHELLE SAWYERS



SHARON YOUNG



ANISSA TANN

ROCKDALE ILINDEN SOCCER CLUB

YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS for 1992 Season

The above Club now extends an invitation to players to trial for its Youth League squads for next season.

The Club has engaged four new coaches with excellent experience.

Trials will be held every Sunday from October 13, 20, 27, November 3 & 10.

Under 13s & 14s 9am Sharp
Under 15s & 17s 10.30am Sharp

Venue: **Tempe Reserve**
Holbeach Rd,
TEMPE, NSW.

For further information please contact
Chris

☎ (02) 554-3939

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

1992 COMPETITIONS

Applications are now being accepted from clubs wishing to participate in the NSW Soccer Federation in 1992, in the following competitions:

- SUPER LEAGUE
- FEDERATION DIVS 1,2,3,4,5,6
- WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE
- SYDNEY & DISTRICT LEAGUE

Applications forms are available from
THE GENERAL MANAGER,
NSW SOCCER FEDERATION,
235/257 Meurants Lane,
PARKLEA, NSW.2155

☎ (02) 629 1800, Fax: 629 3770

SOCCER POOLS



THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 323

SAT. 5th OCTOBER, 1991

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	CHELSEA	1
	ASTON VILLA	LUTON	2
	LEEDS	SHEFF. UTD.	3
	OLDHAM	SOUTH'PTON	4
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	Q.P.R.	NOTT'M. FOR.	5
	SHEFF. WED.	CRYSTAL P.	6
	WEST HAM	COVENTRY	7
	WIMBLEDON	NORWICH	8
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	BRISTOL R.	MIDDLESBRO	9
	DERBY	BRISTOL C.	10
	IPSWICH	OXFORD UTD.	11
	LEICESTER	CHARLTON	12
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	MILLWALL	BLACKBURN	13
	PLYMOUTH	SWINDON	14
	PORTSMOUTH	NEWCASTLE	15
	PORT VALE	CAMBRIDGE U.	16
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	SUNDERLAND	BRIGHTON	17
	WATFORD	GRIMSBY	18
	WOLVES	BARNLEY	19
	BOLTON	TORQUAY	20
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	CHESTER	STOKE	21
	DARLINGTON	BURY	22
	FULHAM	BRENTFORD	23
	HARTLEPOOL	WIGAN A.	24
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	HUDDERSFIELD	SWANSEA	25
	HULL	EXETER	26
	PETERBORO	LEYTON O.	27
	PRESTON	WEST BROM.	28
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	READING	BOURNEMOUTH	29
	SHREWSBURY	BIRMINGHAM	30
	STOCKPORT	BRADFORD C.	31
	BURNLEY	CARLISLE	32
ENGLISH DIVISION 9	CARDIFF	WREXHAM	33
	DONCASTER	CREWE	34
	GILLINGHAM	CHESTERFIELD	35
	LINCOLN	HALIFAX	36
ENGLISH DIVISION 10	MANFIELD	MAIDSTONE	37
	NORTHAMPTON	BLACKPOOL	38
ENGLISH DIVISION 11	SCUNTHORPE	HEREFORD	39
	WALSALL	BARNET	40
	YORK	SCARBORO	41
	HORWICH	WHITLEY BAY	42
ENGLISH DIVISION 12	MARINE	DROYLSDEN	43
	MORECAMBE	MATLOCK	44
	SHEPshed	MOSSLEY	45
	ABERDEEN	ST. MIRREN	46
ENGLISH DIVISION 13	AIRDRIE	RANGERS	47
	CELTIC	HEARTS	48
	FALKIRK	DUNDEE U.	49
	HIBERNIAN	DUNFERMLINE	50
ENGLISH DIVISION 14	S. JOHNSTONE	MOTHERWELL	51
	AYR	STIRLING A.	52
	CLYDEBANK	MEADOWBANK	53
	DUNDEE	PARTICK	54
ENGLISH DIVISION 15	FORFAR	KILMARNOCK	55

Get your Pools in!

It takes only six numbers to win.

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 322

SAT. 28th SEPTEMBER, 1991

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHELSEA	EVERTON	1	2-2
	COVENTRY	ASTON VILLA	2	1-0
	CRYSTAL P.	Q.P.R.	3	2-2
	LIVERPOOL	SHEFF. WED.	4	1-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	LUTON	NOTTS C.	5	1-1
	MAN. CITY	OLDHAM	6	1-2
	NORWICH	LEEDS	7	2-2
	NOTTINGHAM F.	WEST HAM	8	2-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	SHEFFIELD UTD.	WIMBLEDON	9	0-0
	SOUTHAMPTON	ARSENAL	10	0-4
	BARNLEY	MILLWALL	11	0-2
	BLACKBURN	TRANMERE	12	0-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	BRISTOL C.	PORTSMOUTH	13	0-2
	GRIMSBY	IPSWICH	14	1-2
	MIDDLESBRO	SUNDERLAND	15	1-2
	NEWCASTLE	DERBY	16	2-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	OXFORD UTD.	PLYMOUTH	17	3-2
	SOUTHEND	WOLVES	18	0-2
	SWINDON	WATFORD	19	3-1
	BIRMINGHAM	PRESTON	20	3-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	BRADFORD C.	SHREWSBURY	21	3-0
	BRENTFORD	BOLTON	22	3-2
	BURY	HARTLEPOOL	23	1-1
	EXETER	READING	24	2-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	LEYTON O.	HUDDERSFIELD	25	1-0
	STOKE	STOCKPORT	26	2-2
	SWANSEA	PETERBORO	27	1-0
	TORQUAY	CHESTER	28	3-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	WEST BROM.	HULL	29	1-0
	WIGAN A.	DARLINGTON	30	1-2
	BARNET	CARDIFF	31	3-6
	BLACKPOOL	ROTHERHAM	32	3-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 9	CARLISLE	WALSALL	33	3-3
	CHESTERFIELD	ALDERSHOT	34	2-1
	CREWE	GILLINGHAM	35	2-1
	HEREFORD	LINCOLN	36	3-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 10	MAIDSTONE	YORK	37	1-0
	ROCHDALE	DONCASTER	38	1-1

THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 30/9/91 — WEEK 322

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED										NO. OF WEEKS NUMBER OCCURRED									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
38	41	48	27	36	61	43	83	52	69	0	6	0	11	11	1	0	0	7	4
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
62	66	57	64	55	58	64	52	54	65	8	6	4	8	2	0	1	13	3	2
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	29	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
62	66	64	61	60	66	62	80	73	87	6	5	14	1	0	2	2	2	5	2
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38			31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38		
69	66	68	75	69	82	67	67			1	1	0	4	3	2	9	1		

Results History is from Week 38, the start of six from 38 Pools.

RESULTS OF WEEK 322 SAT SEPTEMBER 28, 1991

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):
3, 7, 8, 16, 26, 33.
Supplementary Number: 1.

UK SOCCER RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE Chelsea 2 Everton 2 Coventry 1 Aston Villa 0. Crystal Palace 2 Queen's Park Rangers 2 Liverpool 1 Sheffield Wednesday 1 Luton 1 Notts County 1. Manchester City 1 Oldham 2 Norwich 2 Leeds 2. Nottingham Forest 2 West Ham 2 Sheffield United 0. Wimbledon 0 Southampton 0 Arsenal 4 Tottenham 1. Manchester United 2.										ENGLISH 3RD DIV W.B.A. 16 8 20 Birmingham 15 9 20 Brentford 15 13 18 Stockport 22 10 17 Huddersfield 14 9 16 Bradford 14 10 14 Shrewsbury 3 10 7 14 Stoke 11 11 14 Bolton 14 14 12 Bury 12 12 12 Leicester 10 9 12 Hartlepool 12 12 12 Fulham 9 9 12 Exeter 12 12 12 Bournemouth 7 7 11 Reading 9 11 10 Preston 10 13 10 Darlington 12 10 10 Petersborough 11 13 8 Chester 11 14 7 Wigan 5 7 13 6 Torquay 7 10 18 6 Swansea 4 5 15 6										ENGLISH 4TH DIV Blackpool 16 5 20 Barnet 15 15 20 Hereford 11 24 15 20 Rochdale 11 14 19 18 Mansfield 11 14 16 17 Crewe 12 12 15 Rotherham 16 11 11 14 Walsall 11 11 13 14 Scunthorpe 11 11 16 13 Chesterfield 11 11 16 13 Burnley 12 10 10 Northampton 11 10 8 10 Wrexham 11 12 10 Cardiff 10 12 10 Lincoln 12 12 7 15 9 Gillingham 12 12 8 8 Aldershot 12 12 8 8 Scarborough 12 12 8 8 Halifax 6 13 8 8 Maidstone 6 13 8 8 York 13 17 6 6 Carlisle 13 17 6 6 Doncaster 8 19 4 4										SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION Hearts 15 7 16 Aberdeen 11 12 4 14 Rangers 19 5 13 Hibernian 13 7 13 Celtic 15 11 10 Dundee Utd 11 10 9 9 Motherwell 9 9 9 9 St. Johnst 11 16 7 Falkirk 11 17 4 Airdrie 11 17 4 St. Mirren 11 17 4 Dunfermline 8 4 24 1										SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE Dundee 11 11 16 Partick 11 17 4 15 Ayr 11 17 4 15 Morton 11 17 4 15 Hamilton 11 17 4 15 Kilmarnock 11 17 4 15 Raith 11 17 4 15 Clydebank 11 17 4 15 Montrose 11 17 4 15 Stirling 11 17 4 15 Forfar 11 17 4 15										SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO Dumbarton 18 10 12 Cowdenby 17 12 12 Clyde 17 12 12 Arbroath 14 11 12 East Fife 14 11 12 Stirling 23 21 9 Brechin 15 14 14 Alloa 10 14 7 Queen's Pk 14 19 7 Q o Sth 14 19 7 Stenhouse 11 14 6 Berwick 11 14 6									
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★ Winning match numbers
and supplementary number.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia, Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

For Past Results and Historical Date on The Pools, write to: T.M.S. P.O. Box 2937 DD GPO Melbourne 3001. Or phone (03) 328 3345.

VICTORIA RESULTS

Dockerty Cup semi-finals:
SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 2 (Waddell, Markovski) BULLEEN 1 (Pappas), SOUTH MELBOURNE 4 (Trimboli 3, Wright 1) PRESTON 2 (Trajanovski 2). Final: SOUTH MELBOURNE 3 (Wade 2, Tsolakis) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 2 (Fabrizio, Waddell pen.).

Health Gold Cup qtr-finals: JUVENTUS 0 PRESTON 2 (Bekiaris 2), SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (Tsolakis, Boutsianis) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 1 (Waddell), BULLEEN 2 (Pappas, Thodis) HEIDELBERG 0, MORWELL FALCONS 0 (3 pen, Cassar, Nield, Bruns) MELBOURNE CROATIA 0 (2 pen, Kelic, Marth).



NEW SOUTH WALES

STATE LEAGUE: FIRST DIVISION

Canberra Metro v Blacktown City 0-3

UNDER-19

Canberra Metro v Sutherland Shire 1-0 a.e.t.

STATE LEAGUE: SECOND DIVISION

Waverley v Dulwich Hill 0-4

UNDER-19

Cyprus United v Auburn Yugal 2-0



SYDNEY CROATIA JUNIORS YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

The above club will be staging trials every Tuesday and Thursday from October 1st to October 31st.

Under 13s, 14s, 15s, and 17s.

Time. . .6pm sharp.

Venue. . .Mason Park.

Underwood Road, Homebush, NSW



For further information, please contact Omer Tele. . .579-3013.

SOLICITORS

Our firm specialises in all legal matters involving the soccer code, and including:

- Playing being cited for infringements
- Clubs being cited for bringing the game into disrepute
- Appearing before the Tribunals and Committees of the State and National Leagues
- Other general matters; (Criminal/Family/Compensation/Conveyancing)

Call us for all your legal needs.

THEODORE SMYRNIS & SOLOMON

Solicitors & Public Notary

1st Floor, 454 Forest Rd, BEXLEY 2207

PH: (02) 597 7033

FAX: 597 1749

Ask for: Andrew Smyrnis or Mario DiLizio

Victorian Premier League



STATE LEAGUE DIV ONE

North Geelong	28	19	6	3	65	22	44
Knox City	28	19	5	4	70	25	43
Springvale City	28	18	4	6	53	23	40
Beil Park	28	13	5	10	36	34	31
Caulfield City	28	11	8	9	30	33	30
Frankston Pines	28	11	8	9	40	44	30
Westgate	28	12	5	11	43	39	29
Werrbee	28	9	8	11	24	32	26
Western Subs	28	7	10	11	24	32	24
Ringwood City	28	5	13	10	26	35	23
Port Melbourne	28	6	9	13	33	43	21
Melbourne City	28	7	14	28	43	21	
Mordialoc	28	7	14	28	43	21	
Essendon City	28	6	9	13	27	44	21
Box Hill	28	6	4	18	24	61	16

STATE LEAGUE DIV ONE RESERVES

Beil Park	27	17	7	3	68	32	41
Knox City	28	19	2	7	83	43	40
Melbourne City	28	17	5	6	57	34	39
Springvale City	28	15	7	6	61	30	37
North Geelong	28	13	10	5	55	33	35
Port Melbourne	28	14	7	7	51	37	35
Caulfield City	28	15	5	8	46	40	35
R. Wood City	28	11	7	10	40	33	29
Werrbee	28	11	4	13	33	41	26
Box Hill	27	9	5	13	38	45	23
Western Subs	28	6	5	17	30	76	17
Mordialoc	28	6	4	18	34	51	16
Frankston Pines	28	6	4	18	44	75	16
Essendon City	28	3	8	17	28	63	14
Westgate	28	3	6	19	27	73	12

STATE LEAGUE DIV TWO

Richmond	30	23	2	5	62	19	48
Altona City	30	20	7	3	60	30	47
Broadmeadows	30	14	9	7	50	37	37
Doncast Rovers	30	13	9	8	46	34	35
Chelsea	30	14	4	12	52	42	32
Bentleigh Green	30	14	4	12	60	52	32
Nunawad City	30	13	4	13	51	46	30
Kellor	30	10	9	11	43	47	29
Waverley City	30	12	4	14	49	50	28
Sunbury Utd.	30	10	7	13	33	36	27
Clifton Hill	30	9	7	14	42	43	25
Sandringham	30	10	4	16	56	59	24
Brighton	30	8	8	14	31	42	24
Geelong	30	10	4	16	31	56	24
Suns. Heights po.	30	7	6	17	23	64	20
Dandenong	30	4	10	16	33	55	18

STATE LEAGUE DIV TWO RESERVES

Clifton Hill	30	19	8	3	66	25	46
Kellor	30	17	8	5	60	25	42
Altona City	30	15	10	5	72	35	40
Richmond	30	15	8	7	63	41	38
Doncast Rovers	30	14	7	9	54	41	35
Brighton	30	12	9	9	48	41	33
Suns. Heights po.	30	12	8	10	52	48	32
Chelsea	30	11	10	9	64	65	32
Broadmeadows	30	8	15	7	45	40	31
Sunbury Utd.	30	10	7	13	34	61	27
Dandenong	30	7	10	13	31	44	24
Waverley City	30	11	2	17	48	67	24
Nunawad City	30	8	7	15	42	58	23
Bentleigh Green	30	8	6	16	50	68	22
Sandringham	30	5	7	18	43	77	17
Geelong	30	5	4	21	28	72	14

STATE LEAGUE DIV THREE

Oakleigh Subs	26	17	6	3	51	19	40
East Bruns Ivan	26	16	5	5	53	22	37
Seaford Utd.	26	17	2	7	57	35	36
Eit.Diam. Valley	26	13	9	4	43	27	35
Clayton	26	12	8	6	50	38	32
Corio Geelong	26	13	4	9	34	30	30
Clarinia	26	9	8	9	28	27	27
Moorabbin City	26	7	10	9	30	24	24
More.P.R.Cob.	26	10	3	13	30	53	23
Lalor Utd.	26	10	2	14	34	32	22
Springvale Utd.	26	7	8	11	25	36	22
Fitzroy City	26	7	4	15	31	62	18
Holland Park	26	3	5	18	26	39	11
Heidelberg City	26	1	5	20	15	53	7

STATE LEAGUE DIV THREE RESERVES

Seaford United	26	19	1	6	69	21	44
Moorabbin City	26	13	8	5	50	29	34
Lalor Utd.	26	12	10	4	37	16	34
East Bruns Ivan	26	11	9	6	48	35	31
Clayton	26	10	11	5	38	30	31
More.P.R.Cob.	26	12	3	11	57	45	27
Fitzroy City	26	9	8	9	36	37	27
Clarinia	26	9	8	9	36	41	26
Oakleigh Subs	26	7	10	34	39	25	
Eit.Diam. Valley	26	7	11	8	34	39	25
Springvale Utd.	26	8	6	12	38	48	22
Corio Geelong	26	6	4	16	31	60	16
Holland Park	26	4	3	19	20	36	11
Heidelberg City	26	4	3	19	25	77	11

STATE LEAGUE DIV FOUR

Regent	24	14	8	2	48	19	36
Sth.Dandenong	24	14	6	4	45	20	34
Cranbourne	24	12	9	3	33	18	33
Karingal Utd.	24	13	6	5	37	29	32
Passcoe Vale	24	9	8	7	41	40	26
Mornington	24	9	8	7	37	42	26
Rosanna	24	8	5	11	38	34	21
Yarraville	24	7	10	34	45	21	
Hawt. Citizens	24	8	4	12	39	40	20
Hamlyn Rangers	24	7	5	12	27	41	19
Langwarrin	24	5	7	12	20	30	17
Boronla	24	5	6	13	29	43	16
Spring Condors	24	4	3	17	22	49	11

STATE LEAGUE DIV FOUR RESERVES

Passcoe Vale	24	19	1	4	58	19	39
Sth.Dandenong	24	14	4	6	47	36	36
Langwarrin	24	15	6	3	47	18	36
Regent	24	12	5	7	35	24	29
Spring Condors	24	10	6	8	41	41	26
Karingal Utd.	24	11	4	9	39	39	26
Cranbourne	24	11	3	10	50	34	25
Boronla	24	8	9	7	33	32	25
Rosanna	24	8	5	11	39	39	21
Hawt. Citizens	24	8	3	13	45	60	19
Hamlyn Rangers	24	4	7	13	26	51	15
Yarraville	24	3	4	17	33	60	10
Mornington	24	1	3	20	28	88	5

VIC PROV ONE FIRSTS

Sth Springvale	26	16	8	2	48	23	40
Sth Warrabee	26	15	6	5	50	28	36
Frankston Utd.	26	13	5	8	46	33	31
Brunswick City	26	11	9	6	42	34	31
Melton	26	13	5	8	41	37	31
Westvale	26	12	4	10	45	32	28
Malvern City	26	10	6	10	30	30	26
Berwick City	26	9	6	11	48	43	24
Altona East	26	8	10	27	34	24	
Yallourn	26	5	11	10	34	41	21
Knox Park	26	5	9	13	40	50	18
Forest Hill	26	5	8	13	40	50	18
Williamstown	26	3	12	11	26	46	18
Nth Sunshine	26	6	5	15	29	52	17

VIC PROV ONE RESERVES

Sth Springvale	26	16	8	2	77	21	42
Sth Warrabee	26	13	7	6	65	35	33
Malvern City	26	13	7	6	57	44	33
Frankston Utd.	26	12	8	6	45	22	32
Brunswick City	26	10	7	9	50	40	27
Knox Park	26	7	13	6	26	40	27
Williamstown	26	8	8	9	46	36	26
Melton	26	6	14	6	34	32	26
Berwick City	26	7	12	7	43	45	26
Nth Sunshine	26	7	11	8	33	38	25
Forest Hill	26	7	12	52	60	21	
Westvale	26	5	9	12	40	60	20
Altona East	26	4	9	13	20	53	17
Yallourn	26	1	7	18	10	72	9

VIC PROV TWO FIRSTS

Lalor	24	17	5	2	71	33	38
Brandon Park	24	17	2	5	38	24	36
Hoppers Cross	24	12	10	2	37	14	34
Bellarat	24	13	5	6	40	27	31
East Geelong	24	11	7	6	41	25	29
Nth Glenroy St	24	11	4	9	36	26	26
Keyborough	24	7	10	7	35	37	24
Mentone Utd.	24	9	5	10	35	36	23
Lyndale Utd.	24	9	4	11	32	35	22
Utd. of Melb.	24	5	14	36	57	15	
Eastern Park Br	24	4	4	16	34	52	12
Meadow Park	24	2	7	15	29	52	11
Wantirna	24	3	4	17	23	56	10

VIC PROV TWO RESERVES

Hoppers Cross	24	16	5	3	51	
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JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

The USA and Japan could be next!



AS if the European and Asian invasion of our top talents hasn't been draining enough, get ready for the USA and Japan.

Rob Hughes, in the following excellent piece from the "International Herald Tribune", foresees the day, in the very near future, when sponsorship and television rights will see the US and Japan take over from Europe and other Asian destinations as the major economic footballing power...

Here is his article, written from Buenos Aires.

At 35,000 feet, crossing a continent which provides the pearls of soccer's ocean, one is struck by the almost Biblical irony of it all.

Here am I, journeying through the night to the birthplace of star players, and where are they?

Mostly in Europe, particularly Italy, Spain and Portugal which spirits away their Latin American brothers almost before the embryo has set.

My closest travelling companions, a charming old couple from Turin, may be pulling my leg.

"Si, si," they had heard of one player, of Madonna in Napoli. Actually, Diego Maradona has returned to Buenos Aires.

But while gravity pulls someone like me to the breeding ground, the economic facts of life pull the players inevitably towards my own, richer, continent.

Inevitable? Surely if it were just the price of everything the real

superpowers, the dollar and the yen would attract all the best?

Corporate

Good question.

The Maradonas, the Zicos count in dollars; the corporate backing to whose tune FIFA has danced these past two decades remains heavily into US liquids and Japanese electronics.

The conundrum has been, up to now, that America and Japan have kept the world game pretty much at arm's reach.

In finance, in using soccer's global marketability, the big boys are right in there: but in the flesh their people, their home markets are abstainers.

Make that past tense.

Coca Cola, Budweiser, Gillette and Co. are making the 1994 World Cup a stars and stripes affair, and (probably after France wins the rights to 1998) who would bet against Japan staging World Cup 2,002?

The bidding has begun.

China and Korea are more than interested in the aim of FIFA's president, João Havelange, to move the World Cup to a third continent but Japan's intent was posted this June with the announcement that Takaishi Ishihara, chairman of Nissan, is to lead its lobby.

That sport follows money, and technology, is obvious enough.

In a world of rapidly changing boundaries and ideologies, we shall see a greater concentration of World Cups, also Olym-

pic Games, in America and Japan.

I regret this.

The Games belong to the world, and the most memorable World Cups.

I have seen this in Mexico, where soccer seemed lifted by the sheer will, the shambolick poverty around it.

People could barely scrape together the admission price, yet from outside the stadiums breathed such expectancy into this temporary escape from reality.

Profound

A real escape, a profound if temporary one, took place here in Argentina when the 1978 World Cup gave an almighty kick to liberating military repression.

Handing the World Cup to the junta had been a frightening gamble, yet when Argentina won the spirit moved millions onto the streets, breaking the curfew.

Freer though Argentines now undoubtedly are, and gifted once more with players who could win another World Cup, there appears not to be the infrastructure, wealth, or organisation to even dream of staging it.

Argentina has just won, in grand style, the Copa America.

Consequently Argentina loses from its soil more starlets — Gabriel Batistuta to Florence, Leonardo Rodriguez to Toulon, Dario Franco to Zaragoza Sergio Goycochea to Brest. And so on.

In return? Boca Juniors acquires two midfield replacements. Ricardo Rentera cost \$250,000 from Argentinos Juniors while Roberto Cabanas, a tricky attacking Paraguayan, is coming on the next plane from Lyon.

Cabanas is the wrong side of 30, and the French club is off-loading him gratis.

He moves to a place which breathes his sport.

Will America, will Japan ever do that?

Both nations insist their kids are soccer addicts by the millions.

The problem is giving them a professional future.

America tried and failed with its NASL, but now has the big apple of a World Cup and the galvanisation of its new national coach, Bora Milutinovic.

Beating Italy, Argentina and China at last month's world under-17 tournament suggests there is something to build for.

And the US senior team's 2-0 victory in Romania a month ago is another brick in the building.

Bora is a fox. He knows where to take his team and when to maximise the results.

His enthusiasm is contagious, his credo is at-

tack: The style is the same with his players.

"Right now," he proclaims, "we would be unlikely to beat Argentina or Brazil."

"In two years' time, who knows? Technically my players are as good as anyone else's; experience is the problem."

"With no full time pro league there is no incentive, so boys go off to be a lawyer or a doctor."

By all accounts, coach Bora enthalls the grown college boys he inherited.

After the previous orders to defend at all costs, they are liberated.

Coach Bora has a habit of drawing all over the video screen with marker pen which cannot rub off, and the fun of watching him get carried away seeps into American play.

Sustaining it will be a problem in a land where television still regards soccer as an upstart. There lies the difference in the land of the rising soccer ball.

Japan's NHK network screened all 52 matches of the 1990 World Cup from Italy, 20 of them at prime time across a nation that had no contender.

"Japan slipped off the face of the Earth as a soccer power just about the time it flexed its muscles and became a formidable economic one."

Toshiro Sone, senior producer of NHK, wrote in the run-up to Italia '90.

NHK failed its viewers in 1986 when, with airtime constricted by Japanese national elections, it screened only 15 of 52 games.

"Young soccer fans swamped us with calls and letters of protest," he wrote. "It was the biggest audience response the network has ever received."

Having fed the people's demands, Japan now moves toward a major national soccer league.

Maradona could go there if Japan, so unforgiving towards drug abusers, can be convinced his aberration was temporary.

Zico, the retired Brazilian, has quit political office to run for the Japanese yen in a three-year contract worth \$3.3 million.

He will be 40 when the league is in flow in 1993, but insists: "I'm going to open a window for Brazilian players and coaches."

Age is not a problem. Neither is the exchange rate.

Zico is recruited by Sumitomo Metals FC, his compatriot Pepe, a star of Pelé's vintage, has joined Yomiuri as coach, and Nisan is building up toward the big kickoff that will have marketability as much in mind as the dreams of youth.



DIEGO MARADONA



Pelé with Franz Beckenbauer.



Zico with a young fan.



Vic Health supports the
Victorian Soccer Federation



Hellas win Dockerty Cup in fine style

STH MELBOURNE 3
SUNSHINE GC 2

BY
VLADO VLAHOVIC

NSL CHAMPION
South Melbourne
Hellas clinched its
fifth Dockerty Cup
final honour after
an entertaining 3-2
win over relegated
NSL outfit Sun-
shine George Cross
at Olympic Park on
Sunday.

The champs were
made to work hard for
its glory against the un-
fancied, youthful Sun-
shine lads lapping up
the sunny conditions in
a game played on a lar-
gely grassless Olympic
Park surface.

After early Sunshine
pressure it was South
Melbourne who made
the most of its forward
forays with two goals in
the opening quarter-
hour.

Six minutes had elap-
sed when Peter Tsola-
kis, who played an im-
portant role in his side's
victory, sent a corner
into the teeth of goal for
Socceroo Paul Wade to
climb high and ram the
ball into the roof of the
net with a fine header.

VIC HEALTH GOLD CUP SEMI-FINALS

At Olympic Park this
Wednesday October 2
**BULLEEN V SOUTH
MELBOURNE** at
6.30pm

**MORWELL FALCONS
V PRESTON MAKEDONIA** at 8.30pm

The final will be played
at Olympic Park on Wed-
nesday October 9.

Nine minutes later
Sunshine's George Svi-
gos fouled ever-present
Tsolkis in the area to
concede a penalty-kick.

Wade converted the
spot-kick with a low
strike into the left cor-
ner of the net.

Tall Sunshine defen-
der John Waddell was
instrumental in his
team's fight-back, pres-
sing forward at every
opportunity, forcing
two fine saves from
Bruce MacLaren, but
one was only partially
saved allowing veteran
Carl Gilder to pounce
with a goalward header
that was desperately
cleared away.

Sunshine deservedly
pegged one goal back
after 31 minutes from a
25 metre Luciano Fa-

brizio screamer into the
right corner of the net
for a 2-1 half-time
scoreline.

Sunshine emerged
from the interval like a
team possessed forcing
five corners in the first
four minutes with big
Waddell again causing
anxious moments in the
heart of Hellas' de-
fence.

But South's forwards
had the answers. Gary
Hasler sent a neat thro-
ugh ball from wide on
the left to dynamo Tso-
lakis, who smacked a
left foot drive into the
far corner of the net
from 15 yards in the
52nd minute mark.

Only two minutes
later Sunshine were
back in calculations
once more. South keeper
MacLaren brought
down Mitch Catter-
mole to concede a
penalty.

Big Waddell conver-
ted the spot-kick and he
deserved his reward for
the amount of havoc he
created.

With only 13 minutes
remaining veteran Gil-
der drifted a close range
diving header wide of
the far post from a Wad-
dell cross, which would
have almost certainly
sent the match into
extra time if scored.

Sunshine were gal-
lant in defeat and vic-
tors South Melbourne
showed signs that per-
haps it still has the
necessary hunger and
quality to compete for
league honors once
more.

SOUTH MELBOURNE:
MacLaren, Healy, Posteco-
glou, Durakovic (Wright),
Blair, Wade, Talladros
(Boutsianis), Petersen,
Trimboli, Hasler, Tso-
lakis.

**SUNSHINE GEORGE
CROSS:** Keogh, Markov-
ski, Bot, Koliba, Muscat,
Fabrizio, Trpceviski (She-
rifovski), Waddell, Svigos
(Roodhouse), Gilder, Cat-
termole.

CROWD: about 3000.

SUNSHINE GC 2
BULLEEN 1

BY
PETER SIOMOS
Sunshine George
Cross overcame a
gallant Bulleen to
score a gutsy 2-1
win to advance to
the final of the Doc-
kerty Cup.

Bulleen opened the
scoring after 15 minutes
when a cross by Michael
Vesnaver was headed
on by Stan Thodis to
Con Pappas who easily
slotted past keeper
Sean Keogh.

Not to be denied Sun-

shine equalised six mi-
nutes later when vete-
ran Carl Gilder slotted
a through ball to John
Waddell who slid the
ball past the advancing
Mauro Raponi with
aplomb.

Two minutes after
the re-start Sunshine
made certain of the lead
this time when Vasco
Trpceviski's corner was
only half cleared and
Tom Markovski was on
hand to find the back of
the net via a deflection.

BULLEEN: Raponi, Va-
lentic, Dal Ben, Krajacic,
Marsan, Grbac, Branov
(Alonzo), Thodis, Vesna-
ver, Pappas, Tuck.

SUNSHINE: Keogh,
Markovski, Bot, Koliba,
Muscat, Fabrizio, Trpce-
viski, Waddell, Svigos, Gil-
der, Cattermole (Sheri-
fovski).

STH MELBOURNE 2
SUNSHINE GC 1

BY DAVID BEARD
NSL CHAMPIONS
South Melbourne
Hellas proved too
experienced for a
youthful Sunshine
George Cross win-
ning 2-1 in their
Gold Cup quarter-
final clash last
week.

Sunshine applied the
pressure from kick-off

and were the better
team in the first-half but
unfortunately for the
Reds you don't get
goals on trying alone.

Peter Tsolkis scored
against the run of play
when he goaled after 25
minutes from a Con Bo-
utsianis cross hitting the
ball past Georgie keeper
Sean Keogh.

However, Sunshine
equalised almost imme-
diately when John
Waddell followed up a
saved shot by resurrec-
ted Carl Gilder.

Shortly afterwards
Tsolkis crossed a ball
into the box with three
Sunshine defenders
failing to clear which
left a surprised Boutsia-
nis to put away an easy
goal which turned out
to be the clincher.

SOUTH MELBOURNE:
MacLaren, Healy, Posteco-
glou, Durakovic, Blair,
Wade, Boutsianis, Peter-
sen, Talladros, Hasler,
Tsolkis.

**SUNSHINE GEORGE
CROSS:** Keogh, Markov-
ski, Bot, Koliba, Muscat,
Fabrizio, Waddell,
Trpceviski, Svigos, Gil-
der, Cattermole.

STH MELBOURNE 4
PRESTON 2

BY
PETER SIOMOS
SOUTH MELBOU-
RNE came twice
from behind before
scoring two extra
time goals to elimi-
nate Preston Make-
donia 4-2 in last
week's Dockerty
Cup second semi-
final at Olympic
Park.

Preston were the bet-
ter side for the majority
of the encounter and se-
emed set for a final
berth until Paul Trim-
boli netted in the 84th
minute to force extra
time.

Preston opened the
scoring after 62 minutes
when Robert Marko-
vac headed on a George
Petrov corner and Kris
Trajanovski headed
home at the near post.

Hellas answered six
minutes later when
Trimboli pounced onto
a loose ball to shoot past
Trianedes.

After 74 minutes,
Preston regained the
lead from another cor-
ner which was only half
cleared thus allowing
Trajanovski to finish
clinically with a shot on
the turn.

Six minutes from full-
time substitute Con Bo-
utsianis manufactured

Hellas' second equali-
ser after he weaved
some magic on the left
before squaring to the
unmarked Trimboli to
slot home.

Another substitute
Danny Wright scored
South's third to put
them ahead four minu-
tes into extra time, on
the end of a Peter Tso-
lakis cut-back, Wright
shook off two defen-
ders before finishing off
the job.

To add to Preston's
woes Trimboli collec-
ted his hat-trick and
Hellas' fourth in the
101st minute when he
beat Trianedes from 30
yards despite the fact he
handled the ball prior to
shooting.

PRESTON: Trianedes,
Roodhouse, Stojcevski,
Jackson, Parton, Petrov,
R.Markovac, Trajanovski,
Bekiaris, McAleer, Momi-
rovski.

SOUTH MELBOURNE:
MacLaren, Healy, Posteco-
glou, Durakovic, Blair,
Wade, Talladros (Wright),
Petersen, Trimboli, Hasler
(Boutsianis), Tsolkis.

PRESTON 2
JUVENTUS 0

BY DAVID BEARD
**PRESTON MAKE-
DONIA** easily acco-
unted for Premier
League champions
Brunswick Juven-
tus 2-0 in a Gold
Cup quarter-final
clash played at
Rugby-trodden
Olympic Park last
week.

Preston's Lou Bekia-
ris was on an excitable
rampage he caused
'death in Brunswick'
with two goals in two
minutes.

His first was scored
after 43 minutes when
he dribbled his way past
several opponents and
into the area to kick tru-
ly from 15 metres.

On the stroke of half-
time he chased down a
runaway ball to control
it right in front of goals
and blast it past keeper
Peter Laumets from
close proximity.

Preston continued to
dominate the second-
half

PRESTON: Trianedes,
Spasevski, Ristevski,
Stojcevski, Jackson, Ro-
odhouse, R.Markovac
(Momirovski), Trajanov-
ski, Bekiaris (Emsovski),
Petrov, Ferrante.

JUVENTUS: Laumets,
Marley, Trani (Lopez), De-
la Rocca, Lane, Sabatino,
Smith, Toro (Trulicio), Gril-
lo, Ferla, Sonsini.

The Bulls roar

BULLEEN 2
HEIDELBERG 0

BY
JOE COLOSIMO

PREMIER LEAGUE
runner-up Bulleen
Veneto confidently
advanced to the
Gold Cup semi-fi-
nals after a convin-
cing 2-0 win over
Heidelberg at Ross
Reserve last week.

Heidelberg control-
led the play early on but
could not capitalise
with many chances it
created. Phil Stubbins,
after 32 minutes, hit a
cracking drive just wide
of the upright.

Five minutes later, a
crucial Brian McNichol
error in his own area al-
lowed Bulleen's Con
Pappas to score with a
fine lob from a narrow
angle giving veteran
goalkeeper Jeff Olver
no chance.

This inspired Bulleen

to take more chances
and this was evident
when Stan 'the stud'
Thodis dribbled past
two players before
burying Berger hopes.

In the 60th minute,
Heidelberg had a goal
disallowed but Bulleen
thoroughly deserved its
victory with two more
chances cleared off the
goalline and in the 96th
minutes another Pap-
pas solo run was halted
however, Anthony
Grbac with a rare miss,
could not convert the
resultant spot-kick.

Unfortunately for
Bulleen it was victory at
a cost as Michael Bra-
nov broke his nose after
a collision with Michael
Vesnaver.

HEIDELBERG: Olver,
Gicevski, Bordignon,
Bratten, Iliopoulos, Van
Egmond, Cranney, Hun-
ter, Rizopoulos, Stubbins,
MacNichol (Spiteri).

BULLEEN: Raponi, Va-
lentic, Dal Ben, Krajacic,
Marsan, Grbac, Branov,
Thodis, Vesnaver, Alon-
zo, Pappas.

How sweet it was!

MORWELL FALCONS 0
MELB CROATIA 0
(Morwell won 3-2p)

BY
JOE COLOSIMO
**REJECTED NSL ap-
plicant Morwell**
Falcons took its fru-
strations out on
last season's run-
ner-up Melbourne
Croatia with a 3-2
penalty shoot-out
victory after an
extra time 0-0
deadlock to advan-
ce to the Gold Cup
semi-finals at
Olympic Park this
Wednesday.

For the third time in
as many weeks Morwell
have not been beaten in
regular time by quality
NSL opposition and are
now just two games
from Gold Cup glory
and if successful will no
doubt remind the ASF
commissioners in no

uncertain terms of its
achievement.

In a spiteful game
with limited opportuni-
ties referee Ziggy Mi-
nich lost all control and
Melbourne Croatia's
penalty shooting hoo-
doo struck it down once
again.

The closest in which
Croatia came was in the
18th minute when a
Francis Awaritefe cross
was muffed by keeper
Dave Reynolds how-
ever a scramble resul-
ted and the ball was cle-
ared away eventually.

Morwell's best chan-
ce came via a George
Nilo free-kick in the
58th minute but Croatia
custodian David Miller
was equal to the task.

With both teams pus-
hed to the limit the pre-
ceding Sunday, fitness
became a vital factor
and it was Croatia that
tired quicker allowing
Morwell to dominate
the second-half.

The game could only

be described as a titanic
struggle between two
teams desperate to win
and please the good
crowd which braved the
inclement Melbourne
Spring weather.

Croatia supporters
must have thought its
penalty hoodoo was
about to change when
Morwell missed two pe-
nalty kicks courtesy of
Gary McMullen and
George Nilo however it
was not to be and Croa-
tia lost again with three
misses this time via
Awaritefe, Damian
Mori and normally
ever-reliable Josip Bi-
skic; all three were
saved by keeper Dave
Reynolds, who deserv-
es some credit.

**MELBOURNE CROA-
TIA:** Miller, Donnelly, Tala-
jic, Selemidis, Davidson
(Silic), Marth, Milosevic
(Vanis), Biskic, Mori, Kelic,
Awaritefe.

MORWELL FALCONS:
Reynolds, Ramos, Harris,
Wright, Bruns, Pender,
McMullen, A.Cassar, Har-
rison, Nield, Nilo.

PASCOE VALE
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SPORTSCENE

Hasler about to blast in goals!



The enthusiasm of youth! Celebrations by Sunshine George Cross' stars Gary Hasler (left), David Clarkson and Derek Hunter. Photo by JOE MONTEMURRO.

**BY
CON STAVROS**

PRIZE recruit Gary Hasler is in the spotlight and loving it at high flying South Melbourne Hellas.

The defending champions made only one significant transfer move throughout the close season and surprised many when they revealed Hasler as their trump card.

The attacking midfielder from doomed George Cross, was probably as shocked as anyone when he learned that Ferenc Puskas only wanted one new member for his squad this season, and that he was that man.

What Puskas wants, Puskas gets, and so it wasn't long before Hasler was meeting his new team-mates in the unfamiliar surroundings of Greece.

Speaking to ABSW, Gary Hasler certainly sounds confident and assured that he can produce the goods expected by the notoriously fickle Hellas fans. Realising that as the only signing he is singled out for comment, the amiable 21 year old is show-

ing maturity beyond his years in his approach.

A hard tackling and running player, Hasler has developed an almost cult like following in his days at Georgie that will in the very least make him an entertaining player.

His eccentric behaviour on the park is legendary and Hasler says nothing will change now that he is at Middle Park.

"Hellas have seen me play and they know what I'm like," he says, "I don't plan to be any different in my approach to the game."

His penchant for scoring goals and celebrating with a gyrating Lambada might be restricted however as Hasler takes on a more defined left-sided midfield role at Hellas.

Whereas previously with George Cross Hasler had relished his favourite role of scoring goals from a striker's position, Puskas obviously is looking for Hasler's tackling and defensive qualities to assist in his plans.

Already, as Hasler points out, he has built up an excellent understanding with skipper Angie Postecoglou, who fills the left-back

role and likes to come forward.

The move to NSL powers Hellas from perennial strugglers Sunshine has been a real eye-opener for Hasler. He cites the level of professionalism and commitment as perhaps the biggest differences. No doubt too he is pleased to be playing next to Paul Wade, a figure on whom he has modelled his game and hopes to one day emulate.

With the talented Hellas squad, the new-boy, like many others, is looking no further than establishing a regular spot in the side as his personal goal for the season. From this he hopes to help South achieve what would be a remarkable back to back championship performance.

Hasler believes his team has the talent to do it and if his pre-season form is any indication, I'm one journalist prepared to say he will play a major part in the quest for that objective.

Certainly it's not often that Puskas is wrong and one gets the feeling that the Lambada may just replace the Zorba as the favoured dance at Middle Park this season.

Mori set to reach peak at Croatia!



Damian Mori shows all his true potential against Melita Eagles last season.

**BY
CON STAVROS**

AFTER just 21 years, the Damian Mori story has many chapters ahead yet to be filled.

To this point, however, the talented utility has recorded a history that would do many veterans proud.

Six clubs in as many years have been graced with the silky skills and brash outlook of a clearly gifted footballer. Melbourne Croatia's Somers Street is home at present and perhaps the environment that will nurture Mori into fulfilling his true potential.

After spending nine years with Box Hill, Mori gained his taste of the big time in the Middle Park cauldron with South Melbourne Hellas where more often than not he warmed the substitutes bench.

Two frustrating seasons later, a period with Brunswick Juventus spelt the beginning of a new era for Mori who under the guidance of Terry Hennessey moved to a defensive role.

Sunshine George Cross the following year under Ernie Merrick continued the progression and Mori began to terrorise opposition NSL defences with his lightning raids from his fullback position.

The untimely disappearance of Georgie from the elite of the NSL meant a search for a new club and after

starring for Bulleen during the Victorian Premier League season, Mori re-appears this campaign under the guidance of Ken Murphy at Croatia.

Although making his biggest impression in his defensive role, it appears that Murphy plans to use his new signing in an attacking midfield scenario.

Whilst Mori isn't fussed over his playing position, his versatility is undoubtedly a major weapon in the Croatia arsenal, as they prepare their assault on the National title that so cruelly eluded them last season.

Labelled a nomad, the youngster who only last week celebrated his twenty-first birthday, is setting himself on a long and successful relationship with his latest club.

Indeed the talented Croatia squad means that Mori will have to perform regularly to maintain a place on the park. That position ironically might be alongside or indeed in place of his role model, Branko Milosevic.

The similarity between the two playmakers is not hard to spot. Milosevic as a playmaker unafraid to unleash a powerful shot will find an excellent

aide in Mori whose pace and commitment make him a true entertainer of the league.

Not surprisingly, the goal of Mori this season is to establish himself in a side that he rightly calls full of great players. Certainly if he can continue the form that he displayed for Bulleen during the past months, that goal is achievable.

His settling into the Murphy scenario and the releasing of his talent to its potential, is perhaps the key to achieving the bigger goal of returning a champions trophy to Somers Street.

New comp under way

BY CON STAVROS

The Victorian Soccer Federation after receiving an unprecedented number of applications for entry to the 1991/92 National Youth League, has formed its own Youth competition to be played over the summer months by those teams that were unsuccessful in their bid.

Whilst initially looking to instigate a two division National Youth League, the rejection of this concept by the Australian Soccer Federation has seen the

fruition of VSF co-ordinated program for some nineteen remaining clubs.

The Southern Division of the NSL's Youth League will have fourteen participants which include two sides from South Melbourne Hellas, Melbourne Croatia and Heidelberg United Alexander. One team from each of Altona Gate, Fawkner, Croydon City, Morwell Falcons, Sunshine George Cross, Brunswick United Juventus and Springvale City will fill the quota.

The VSF sponsored program will run from October 26, 1991 through to March 1992 and will include a three week break over the Christmas Holiday period.

The nineteen participants listed below will play each other only once, with each team having an even number of home and away games. It is likely that some minor experimental aspects such as three points for a win will be trialled by the VSF in this competition.

Clubs involved are: Preston Makedonia Colts, Bulleen, Doveton, Mooroolbark, Northcote City, Albion, North Geelong, Caulfield City, Werribee, Melbourne City, Port Melbourne, Brighton, Sunshine Heights Polonia, Seaford United, Frankston United, East Richmond, Northern United, Bendigo and Karingal United.



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Taliadoros is back stronger and fitter

BY
CON STAVROS

HE's back! Faster, stronger, fitter and with longer hair than ever before. He sends shivers of fear into defences and celebrates goals like no-one else can. His name is Kimon Taliadoros and he's coming to a soccer ground near you.

Coming off a championship winning season, in which he was openly disappointed with his personal form, Kimon is keen to see Hellas repeat its glory and find the back of the net with greater frequency.

Despite finishing last season as the club's leading scorer, Taliadoros realises that if he

is to figure in the Socce-roo calculations of Eddie Thomson, he needs goals, goals and more goals.

The twenty-three year old striker is a product of Box Hill and made his mark in the NSL with a series of scintillating last minute goals after coming on as a substitute. Two magnificent headed efforts in the dying minutes that beat Apia 4-3 in only his second appearance, will long remain in the minds of the Hellas faithful, who recognise the fearless potential encapsulated in the Taliadoros frame.

As part of the South Melbourne, Tsolakis, Trimboli, Taliadoros, three-tee strike-force, Kimon is at this stage setting his goals no further than maintaining a place in a successful side. Indeed, with youngsters Con Boutsianis and Mike Michalako-

poulos straining at the leash of first team selection, a regular place in the defending champion side is guaranteed to no-one.

Whilst participating in the tour of Greece with Hellas, Taliadoros along with Trimboli, also represented Australia in the World Student Games in Sheffield, England, during the close season.

Whilst the Aussies only managed twelfth position from sixteen participants, it is worth noting that Australia's first group opponents Holland and South Korea both made the final of the championship.

Taliadoros, suitably refreshed and enthused by the international experiences, will be keen to complete the coming season injury free after missing ten games last year because of a knee injury.

Ferenc Puskas it appears will continue to persist with Taliadoros as a right sided attacker, despite the explosive approach Kimon seems to bring to the central attacking role.

Fans on the terraces continue to be entertained by his unpredictability and amazed at his penchant to steer home the most difficult of chances whilst missing the straightforward.

One part of Kimon's game that often goes unnoticed is his aerial ability. His uncompromising approach makes him dangerous in a Hellas forward line that clearly lacks height and many of his goals are the result of his go where angels fear to tread approach.

When he does score, Taliadoros's goal celebrations are always worth watching, be it a footshake with a teammate, or a speeding run past all the jubilant fans.

The blue and white army will hope that this season promises many such celebrations.



KIM TALIADOROS

The star award on again!

BY
CON STAVROS

ABSW, in conjunction with Pascoe Vale Sportscentre, is pleased to once again announce the return of its prestigious Player of the Year Award.

The title which carries prizemoney of \$500 and a magnificent trophy will enter its third season and once again reward the country's best NSL player as voted by ABSW match reporters.

The inaugural winner, John Filan of St George, was followed last season by Melbourne Croatia's

inspirational leader Josip Biskic.

Melbourne soccer identity and the proprietor of Pascoe Vale Sportscentre, Mauro Raponi, is the proud sponsor of this much sought after accolade.

Mauro's all encompassing sports center is located at 413-415 Bell Street in Pascoe Vale and specialises in the world's most popular sport.

Melbourne soccer fans need look no further than Mauro's premises for the best deal and range of sporting equipment and apparel.

Voting in the award will be done in the familiar 3-2-1 system with each game being scruti-

nised by ABSW's expert team of match analysts. The best player on the park, irrespective of the final result, will receive three votes, the second best two votes and so on.

Full details of progressive voting will appear exclusively in ABSW each week.

Be sure to get your copy each Tuesday to follow the voting in this exciting award.



WINNER Josip Biskic

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Division One brought forth some stimulating football

BY DAVID BULLOCK

The Victorian State League Division One has been overshadowed somewhat this season by the Premier League's kick-off. Below is a quick synopsis of the division participants' performances through the campaign.

NORTH GEELONG (1st) - Dubbed as pre-season favourites for the championship, North Geelong lived up to all expectations. The undoubted mastermind behind the club's conquest was flamboyant coach Branko Culina who blended together a

winning formula of youth and experience that was unequalled in the league. The unearthing of teenage goal ace Adrian Cervinski was one of a number of highs for the Croatian backed club who looks set to follow on their impressive form in the Premier League next season. **STAR PERFORMER** - Adrian Cervinski.

KNOX CITY (2nd) - Knox City will look back on round 28 as the day the championship slipped from their grasp. The 2-0 defeat at home to Nth Geelong all but wrapped up the title and the Eastern Suburbs outfit though promoted will be haunted by that result for what may seem an eternity. While coach

Norrie Pate blended together a capable unit fit to perform for the rigors of the campaign, there is doubt whether the club, which is financially in tatters, will be able to hack the Premier League, despite possessing 25 goal striker Peter Lutgens. **STAR PERFORMER** - Peter Lutgens.

SPRINGVALE CITY (3rd) - So near but so far. For the third year running, City have put themselves on course for promotion only to squander any chance with some lacklustre performances towards the end of the season. There is no denying Gus MacLeod has built up a talented side, but there are question marks on their ability to absorb pressure. **STAR**

PERFORMER - Doug Chisholm.

BELL PARK (4th) - Looked like relegation candidates early on, but as the season rolled along, a string of impressive performances was justifiably rewarded with a high league standing. With neighbours Nth Geelong clinching the title, it was a remarkable and successful 1991 for teams from Sleepy Hollow. **STAR PERFORMER** - Mark Linney.

CAULFIELD CITY (5th) - Bounced back after the disappointment of relegation last year with a season full of merit. With players the likes of Con Pappas, Bill Tsiakos and Dean Anastadiadis defecting to the Premier League, the Greek backed outfit relied on its youth resources to see it through. **STAR PERFORMER** - Nick Deligiannis.

FRANKSTON PINES (6th) - Found the First Division more to their liking after crashing down last season from the State League. Squad remained very similar to last season and at times under guidance from Jimmy Ross, looked serious promotion contenders. **STAR PERFORMER** - Craig Miller.

WESTGATE (7th) - Serbian backed side which has all the ingredients to become a real force and this potential was evident on a number of occasions this season. With Srdsah Jankovic and Damir Gnjudic netting 30 goals between them, was a feared opponent. **STAR PERFORMER** - Damir Gnjudic.

WERRIBEE CITY (8th) - A credible position in the middle of the table, but unless the squad and ambitions are boosted next season, the club may be caught out for a lack of desire. **STAR PERFORMER** - Steve Hackett.

WESTERN SUBURBS (9th) - Since their demise from the State League in 1988, this Greek backed club has hovered around mid-table lacking the vital ammunition to progress any further. Though somewhat re-



Action from the Victorian scene

stified this season with Nick Papadopoulos netting 16 goals, the team is relying on youth and is at least giving itself a fighting chance of becoming a competitive unit. **STAR PERFORMER** - Nick Papadopoulos.

RINGWOOD CITY (10th) - After starting the season like a house on fire, Ringwood seemed to lose all direction and subsequently struggled. The glamour team of the 50s and 60s registered 13 draws in a somewhat defensive performance through the season. After failing to return 11 regulars from last year, Ringwood adopted the fashionable and cost effective youth policy and there is enough fuel in the tanks to suggest the team may bounce back wiser for the experience next season. **STAR PERFORMER** - Des Shannon.

PORT MELBOURNE (11th) - If there is a Greek God living in Melbourne, Port fans will testify until they are blue in the face that it is Manos Milos. Milos

parted company with Northcote City during the season and found himself in charge of a similarly ailing Port Melbourne. A slow resurrection slowly took place and on the final day of the season Port jumped three places to stave off the drop, at least temporarily. **STAR PERFORMER** - Frank Serafinos.

MELBOURNE CITY (12th) - Despite acquiring the services of Oscar Crino as coach and the loans of NSL stalwarts George Petrov and Phil Traianedes, the Argentinian backed club lasted just one campaign back in the First Division. The dulcet tones of the tango will be gracing the Second Division next year. **STAR PERFORMER** - Carlos Romero.

MORDIALLOC (13th) - For a number of years Mordialloc have been lucky enough to stave off relegation, but their number finally came up this year. Being one of many Greek backed clubs in the league, their sup-

port base has been dwindling for a number of seasons and the club has never rebounded from the now defunct merger with Hellas a number of years ago. **STAR PERFORMER** - Peter Vardaxis.

ESSENDON CITY (14th) - Yet another club on the verge of relegation for a number of seasons who finally ran out of luck. A club known for its battling approach, they turned in some brilliant performances during the season, that were ultimately too far and few between. **STAR PERFORMER** - Mike Giacomi.

BOX HILL (LAST) - Having failed to win a match in 1990, Box Hill at least tasted success six times during the course of the season. Even so it failed to lift the club from its all too familiar position now of cellar-dweller. The Hillmen may have graced the Victorian scene for the last time if rumours of a takeover by Clayton Inter (Div 3) eventuate. **STAR PERFORMER** - Nick Dimitrakis.

The Bill Fleming award will be keenly contested

BY CON STAVROS

Victoria's most prestigious media determined award, the Bill Fleming Medal, is to be presented this Friday night in Melbourne.

This year's winner will become the twenty-first recipient of the valued prize and follow last year's recipient, Andy Humble of Croydon, into the history books.

Organised by the ever popular Offside Club, the black-tie ceremony will take place at International Receptions of 81 Bay Street, Brighton.

The function, which is open to all, offers spectators a rare chance to participate in an exciting evening that signals the culmination of a season's work. Tickets at just \$45 all inclusive are still available by telephoning Jodie on 429 6288 or transmitting a facsimile on 428 0619.

Those attending will witness what is perhaps one of the closest races ever as the inaugural

Premier League season has thrown forward a number of worthy candidates.

Brian McNicholl of Juventus, the winner of the ABSW Most Exciting Player title, will receive his award on the evening and must also be a strong chance for the Fleming Medal. Team-mates Fausto De Amicis and John Corvan should also figure well in the voting.

Strike-guns Ollie Pondeljak (St. Albans) and Sasha Becvinovski (Green Gully) will no doubt capture attention after their rampant goal scoring efforts through the season.

Whilst goalkeepers traditionally fare poorly in award ceremonies, Thomastown's Robert Brian has impressed and should attract support, especially for a place in the Victorian All-Star Team which will also be announced on the evening, if not the Medal itself.

Others likely to be amongst the front-runners include Doveton's irrepressible Doug Hodgson, now with Heidelberg, Northcote's dashing Alex Gymnopoulos and Morwell's sweeper ex-

traordinaire, Adrian Pender.

All the above however will need to beat the warm favourite and my tip, dynamic Bulleen playmaker Fabio Incantalupo.

The well credentialled Incantalupo has had a fine year despite his tragic broken leg occurring towards the end of the season and will be hard to overlook.

Aside from the previously mentioned All-Star Team and the Fleming Medal, the evening will also celebrate the announcement of a Victorian Under 21 player of the year, a Victorian Referee of the Year and a Victorian Coach of the Year.

All awards will be voted upon by a specially selected panel of the states leading soccer media identities and whilst they will be hard pressed to go past Juventus's first-year coaching success, Billy Rodgers, for the latter accolade, the former two are certainly wide open.

Those not attending can capture all the excitement of this special award night in coming issues of ABSW.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH ALAN CLARK



Big awards in challenge series

THE Player of Series and top goalscorer will receive awards in the \$30,000 Fairmont Homes challenge in November at Hindmarsh Stadium.

The State team will meet local NSL giants Adelaide City and West Adelaide in the tournament.

Player of the Series will capture the John Di Pinto award in memory of the late City administrative stalwart. The scorer award will bear the name of former great West striker Nick Pantelis.

Fairmont Homes chief Gordon Pickard said: "Fairmont Homes, with its strong connection with soccer in SA, is delighted to be involved with this tournament.

"The very best of SA soccer talent will be involved each week. In particular, we are pleased to recognise the late Adelaide City administrator John Di Pinto and West striker Nick Pantelis with awards."

City kicks off the tournament on November 13 against the State team. West and City clash on November 20 and the State men meet West on November 27. The final is on December 11. The winner will receive \$15,000 with \$9,000 to the runner-up and \$6,000 to third.

Summer youth league fixtures are likely to be curtain-raisers to the games.

That competition will run from October 20 to January 12 with City and West youths meeting under-19 zone sides representing north, south, east and west.

Salisbury's Bob Winner will coach the northern side with John van der Veeken (Blackwood) in charge of south and east and west led respectively by Steve Baker (Azzurri) and Bugsy Nyskohus (Beograd).

Birkalla Eagles and Modbury are the only Foundation SA clubs not to participate in the tournament.

"We do not have a sponsor as yet," SA Soccer Federation general manager Tony Farrugia said. "But, in conjunction with Adelaide City and West Adelaide, the Federation is negotiating with potential sponsors.

"The tournament promises to give sponsors great exposure with the keen interest it will create during the NSL season.

"The cream of SA talent will be on show each week in top level competition."

A youth game will be a curtain-raiser to weekly NSL matches at Hindmarsh.

The State team has been invited to meet Victoria in a challenge match in November at Mt Gambier.

"We have been asked to play there by the Western Border Association," SA Soccer Federation general manager Tony Farrugia said.

"We are awaiting a reply from the Victorian Soccer Federation about the match. But it would be an ideal promotion for the game in one of our country areas."

SA wants to play the game on either Saturday, November 16 or November 23. That would give continuity with the rich Fairmont Homes challenge series in which the State squad plays Adelaide City and West Adelaide.

Victoria last year beat SA 3-0 in Mildura.

WEST ADELAIDE will keep in touch with injured goalkeeper Steve Mautone of Blacktown.

"He was all set to come here and is devastated with the injury," Pantsaras said. "He hopes to go to the AIS in Canberra for rehabilitation after his knee reconstruction and we shall keep in close contact with him.

The NSL club also was disappointed to

miss out on Youth Soccereroo Brad Maloney.

One of the young 'Roo stars in this year's world titles in Portugal, Maloney had talked terms with the club but then apparently decided his future lay elsewhere.

WEST Adelaide has completed the signing of Darren Fletcher from Napier in the New Zealand National League.

The industrious, aggressive midfielder, 24, played impressively in West's scoreless trial on Sunday against Heidelberg.

He joins Argentina-born Claudio Canosa, from Southern Districts in NSW, as a new boy in the West set-up.

The club's options still are open on Foundation SA League trialists Ted Briscoe, Peter Blazincic and Robbie Slager.

West looks to have just about settled its squad, and coach Nick Pantsaras will try to bend that into shape in the training sessions and couple of trials before it meets Brisbane on Sunday, October 6, in its NSL opener.

Adelaide City, which is first cab off the rank in the NSL with its away match on Friday, October 4 with Newcastle defeated Marconi 1-0 with a Steve Maxwell goal.

But coach Zoran Matic still admitted concern over the side's pattern in midfield.

"We have more troubles than Alan Bond in midfield," Matic said. "We shall have to work on that."

Tony Vidmar, likely to be missing for another two weeks with a hamstring injury, could be a candidate to challenge for his brother Aurelio's deep-lying role.

Tall, teenage Perth Italia goalkeeper Vince Matossa impressed with a solid second-half performance while Ernie Tapai slipped back into action from injury.

STATE Director of Coaching Carlos Buzzetti has been honoured by being picked as Australia's sole coaching representative at a special FIFA course this



Salisbury goalkeeper in action during Cup final. Pic — JANUSZ KAMMA

month in Vanuatu.

Buzzetti, also SA's development officer, will attend the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Football Development Program.

Instructor will be German Heinz Marotzke, one of FIFA's top five coaches.

The course from October 15-21 is likely to be attended by representatives from NZ, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, Western Samoa and Vanuatu.

"With the youth World Cup here in 1993, I was keen to catch up on the latest developments and it was a great thrill to receive this opportunity," Buzzetti said.

Buzzetti is coach of State under-17 side. It plays West Adelaide from 10am on Sunday in

a trial game at John Hart Reserve.

Meanwhile, SA stars Sonia Gegenhuber, Sharon Black and Tracey Jenkins have been named in a national women's training squad for a Test series from October 19-22 in NZ. The present squad of 19 will be cut by three.

REDEVELOPMENT work at Hindmarsh Stadium is progressing most satisfactorily.

Sections of the stadium already have been demolished and the building of changerooms, referees rooms, new race and grandstand area looks likely to be completed on schedule.

"We shall lose some public seating in the grandstand but an additional 1000 undercover seats will be provided in the next

phase," SA Soccer Federation general manager Tony Farrugia said.

The SASF board hosted an informal meeting of club delegates on Wednesday to discuss the game's future.

"We shall not be trying to steamroll anybody," Farrugia said. "We shall gauge the feedback before preparing a proposal paper on the development and window dressing of the game for the seminar of clubs on October 20."

FORMER Adelaide City favourite Dixie Deans is back at his old stamping ground - Celtic Park in Glasgow.

He is one of the hospitality hosts in the executive area at Glasgow Celtic's ground.



Croatia's Brendon Hiern: Croatia. Pic — JANUSZ KAMMA

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NSL SOCCER ABOUT TO BLAST - OFF



A DISASTER OR SUCCESS?

BY TOM ANDERSON

ONCE again, as on so many times in the past, the NSL will face its 'Moment of Truth' when the competition gets underway at the weekend.

The NSL, supposedly revamped under the guidelines of the Bradley Report, will stand or fall by the attendances at the games - it's as simple as this.

No code can expect to attain the title of a 'Major Australian Sport' if it fails to attract the paying customer.

These days sponsorship plays a big part in all sport and without it, the quest to achieve greatness is almost an impossible task.

However, by the same token, no sport — whatever it may be, can rely solely on sponsorship.

If it does, it's just postponing the inevitable.

Crowds must be attracted to games and clubs, players and coaches must be "sold" to the public.

The clubs themselves are making a big effort in this area, but whether the national body has the knowhow to give them a lead in the marketing field is at present highly questionable.

After great trauma, the NSL will be televised.

This time on the SBS network.

Radio coverage has also been captured in Sydney — on the 2KY station.

New sponsorship has also been found.

However there is still a big question mark over the administration of soccer's major league.

It still seems there is an unwritten law in the corridors of power at ASF headquarters at Rockdale in Sydney, 'that the more trivial an item, the longer it is discussed.'

Soccer administrators in this country have not had a high profile in the past and apart from an isolated few now in power, this is still the situation.

World famous coach Tommy Docherty once said of officials: "The ideal board of directors should consist of three men — two dead and one dying."

However, maybe this is taking things a bit too far!

But it is no secret that the general opinion of soccer administrators in this country is: they remain the last outpost of what can be termed the amateur enthusiast of the Victorian era.

It is to be hoped that this will be proved wrong during the com-

ing season.

At the end of the day, the onus will fall on the players to make the competition a success.

If they produce the goods in the playing arena, where it really matters, the crowds will come and watch them.

Australian soccer supporters — through the advent of watching top class overseas fare on television, are now highly sophisticated critics.

They know the difference between top class football and modest fare.

No longer can they be fooled.

Also, with the drastic financial situation that at present exists in this country, the dollar is hard to come by.

Sportfans will just not pay good money to watch an inferior product.

It's up to the NSL teams to deliver entertaining and positive soccer.

There is no hiding the fact our game at club and international level has been decimated by the departure of many of our young

stars to overseas clubs.

This had its effect last season, when the NSL standard dropped.

However, there are still many fine players in this country.

Players, who given the opportunity by their coaches and not shackled by defensive systems, can provide the entertainment desired.

A great deal of attention will be paid to the three 'new teams' in the competition — Newcastle Breakers, Brisbane United and West Adelaide.

Not only in the playing arena but in the crowd pulling stakes.

And this does not only mean home attendances, but also their ability to attract customers when they travel.

Also, with no promotion or relegation, many pundits are at present questioning whether all the teams in the competition will be really competitive.

It will be a major disaster if some clubs — with no relegation worries, have not built their squads to the required strength.

Time and the success of the coming season will surely tell.

We wish the NSL well during the coming season and hope it will bring forth the desired results.



Tommy McCulloch of Marconi

**ROUND 1 Sun October 6**

NEWCASTLE BHP	v ADELAIDE CITY	Austral Park 8pm	SCORE
BRISBANE UNITED	v WEST ADELAIDE	Perry Park 4pm	.....
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	v PRESTON MAKEDONIA	Middle Park 3pm	.....
MELBOURNE CROATIA	v MARCONI	Somers Street 3pm	.....
APIA LEICHHARDT	v WOLLONGONG CITY	Gabbie Stadium 7pm	.....
SYDNEY CROATIA	v HEIDELBERG UNITED	Croatian Spts C 3pm	.....
MELITA EAGLES	v SYDNEY OLYMPIC (MON 7)	Melita Stadium 3pm	.....

NSL DRAW**ROUND 2 Sun October 13**

NEWCASTLE BHP	v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	Austral Park 7.45pm	SCORE
MARCONI	v BRISBANE UNITED	Marconi Stadium 3pm	.....
PRESTON MAKEDONIA	v SYDNEY CROATIA	Connor Reserve 3pm	.....
APIA LEICHHARDT	v ADELAIDE CITY	Gabbie Stadium 3pm	.....
WOLLONGONG CITY	v MELITA EAGLES	Brandon Park 6pm	.....
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	v WEST ADELAIDE	St George Stad. 7pm	.....
HEIDELBERG UNITED	v MELBOURNE CROATIA	Olympic Village 3pm	.....

ROUND 9 Sun December 1

NEWCASTLE BHP	v HEIDELBERG U
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	v BRISBANE UNI
PRESTON MAKEDONIA	v MELBOURNE C
APIA LEICHHARDT	v MARCONI
MELITA EAGLES	v WEST ADELAID
ADELAIDE CITY	v SYDNEY OLYM
SYDNEY CROATIA	v WOLLONGONG

ROUND 3 Sun October 20

BRISBANE UNITED	v HEIDELBERG UNITED	Perry Park 4pm	SCORE
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	v APIA LEICHHARDT	Middle Park 3pm	.....
PRESTON MAKEDONIA	v NEWCASTLE BHP	Connor Reserve 3pm	.....
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	v MARCONI	St George Stad. 7pm	.....
WOLLONGONG CITY	v WEST ADELAIDE	Brandon Park 6pm	.....
ADELAIDE CITY	v MELITA EAGLES	Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm	.....
SYDNEY CROATIA	v MELBOURNE CROATIA	Croatian Spts C 3pm	.....

ROUND 10 Sun December 8

MARCONI	v MELITA EAGLE
BRISBANE UNITED	v PRESTON MAK
WEST ADELAIDE	v SYDNEY CROA
HEIDELBERG UNITED	v APIA LEICHHAF
MELBOURNE CROATIA	v NEWCASTLE B
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	v SOUTH MELBO
WOLLONGONG CITY	v ADELAIDE CITY

ROUND 4 Sun October 27

NEWCASTLE BHP	v SYDNEY CROATIA	Austral Park 7.45pm	SCORE
MARCONI	v WOLLONGONG CITY	Marconi Stadium 3pm	.....
APIA LEICHHARDT	v PRESTON MAKEDONIA	Leichhardt Oval 3pm	.....
MELITA EAGLES	v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	Melita Stadium 7pm	.....
WEST ADELAIDE	v ADELAIDE CITY	Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm	.....
HEIDELBERG UNITED	v SYDNEY OLYMPIC	Olympic Village 3pm	.....
MELBOURNE CROATIA	v BRISBANE UNITED	Somers Street 3pm	.....

ROUND 11 Sun December 15

NEWCASTLE BHP	v BRISBANE UNIT
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	v WOLLONGONG
PRESTON MAKEDONIA	v SYDNEY OLYMP
APIA LEICHHARDT	v MELBOURNE C
MELITA EAGLES	v HEIDELBERG U
WEST ADELAIDE	v MARCONI
SYDNEY CROATIA	v ADELAIDE CITY

ROUND 5 Sun November 3

NEWCASTLE BHP	v APIA LEICHHARDT	Austral Park 7.45pm	SCORE
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	v WEST ADELAIDE	Middle Park 5.30pm	.....
PRESTON MAKEDONIA	v MELITA EAGLES	Connor Res. 5.30pm	.....
WOLLONGONG CITY	v HEIDELBERG UNITED	Brandon Park 6pm	.....
ADELAIDE CITY	v MARCONI	Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm	.....
SYDNEY CROATIA	v BRISBANE UNITED	Croatian Spts C 7pm	.....
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	v MELBOURNE CROATIA	St George Stad. 7pm	.....

ROUND 12 Sun December 22

BRISBANE UNITED	v APIA LEICHHAF
SYDNEY CROATIA	v MARCONI
HEIDELBERG UNITED	v WEST ADELAID
MELBOURNE CROATIA	v MELITA EAGLES
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	v NEWCASTLE B
WOLLONGONG CITY	v PRESTON MAKI
ADELAIDE CITY	v SOUTH MELBO

ROUND 6 Sun November 10

MARCONI	v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	Marconi Stadium 7pm	SCORE
BRISBANE UNITED	v SYDNEY OLYMPIC	Perry Park 7pm	.....
WEST ADELAIDE	v PRESTON MAKEDONIA	Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm	.....
APIA LEICHHARDT	v SYDNEY CROATIA	Leichhardt Oval 7pm	.....
MELITA EAGLES	v NEWCASTLE BHP	Melita Stadium 7pm	.....
HEIDELBERG UNITED	v ADELAIDE CITY	Olympic Village 5.30pm	.....
MELBOURNE CROATIA	v WOLLONGONG CITY	Somers Street 5.30pm	.....

ROUND 13 Thurs December 26

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	v SYDNEY CROA
PRESTON MAKEDONIA	v ADELAIDE CITY
NEWCASTLE BHP	v WOLLONGONG
APIA LEICHHARDT	v SYDNEY OLYMI
MELITA EAGLES	v BRISBANE UNIT
WEST ADELAIDE	v MELBOURNE C
MARCONI	v HEIDELBERG U

ROUND 7 Sun November 17

NEWCASTLE BHP	v WEST ADELAIDE	Austral Park 7.45pm	SCORE
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	v HEIDELBERG UNITED	Middle Park 5.30pm	.....
PRESTON MAKEDONIA	v MARCONI	Connor Res. 5.30pm	.....
APIA LEICHHARDT	v MELITA EAGLES	Leichhardt Oval 7pm	.....
WOLLONGONG CITY	v BRISBANE UNITED	Brandon Park 6pm	.....
ADELAIDE CITY	v MELBOURNE CROATIA	Hindmarsh Stad. 7pm	.....
SYDNEY CROATIA	v SYDNEY OLYMPIC	Croatian Spts C 7pm	.....

ROUND 14 Sun December 29

PRESTON MAKEDONIA	v SOUTH MELBOU
ADELAIDE CITY	v NEWCASTLE BH
WOLLONGONG CITY	v APIA LEICHHAR
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	v MELITA EAGLES
WEST ADELAIDE	v BRISBANE UNIT
MARCONI	v MELBOURNE CF
HEIDELBERG UNITED	v SYDNEY CROAT

ROUND 8 Sun November 24

MARCONI	v NEWCASTLE BHP	Marconi Stadium 7pm	SCORE
BRISBANE UNITED	v ADELAIDE CITY	Perry Park 7pm	.....
MELITA EAGLES	v SYDNEY CROATIA	Melita Stadium 7pm	.....
WEST ADELAIDE	v APIA LEICHHARDT	Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm	.....
HEIDELBERG UNITED	v PRESTON MAKEDONIA	Olympic Village 5.30pm	.....
MELBOURNE CROATIA	v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	Somers Street 5.30pm	.....
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	v WOLLONGONG CITY	St George Stad. 7pm	.....

ROUND 15 Wed January 1

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS	v NEWCASTLE B
MELBOURNE CROATIA	v HEIDELBERG U
BRISBANE UNITED	v MARCONI
WEST ADELAIDE	v SYDNEY OLYMP
MELITA EAGLES	v WOLLONGONG
ADELAIDE CITY	v APIA LEICHHAR
SYDNEY CROATIA	v PRESTON MAKE

8th Edition Ethnic Soccer World Cup

GARSDALE PARK, GRANVILLE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

1.00pm AA Lebanon v Egypt
 2.45pm AA Mexico v TR of N.Cyprus
 4.30pm Opening Ceremony
 5.30pm AA Turkey v Spain
 7.15pm AA Chile v Peru

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

9.00am 0/35 Turkey v TR of N.Cyprus
 10.20am AA Ghana v Colombia
 12.05pm AA Dalmatia v Assyria
 1.50pm AA Argentina v England
 3.40pm AA Uruguay v Israel

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

9.00am 0/35 Peru v Iceland
 10.10am 0/35 Chile v Uruguay
 11.20am 0/35 Argentina v Ireland

NOTE: AA (All Age) 0/35 (Over 35's)

1991-92

ROUND 16 Sun January 5

NEWCASTLE BHP
APIA LEICHHARDT
MELITA EAGLES
WEST ADELAIDE
MARCONI
HEIDELBERG UNITED
MELBOURNE CROATIA

v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
v ADELAIDE CITY
v WOLLONGONG CITY
v SYDNEY OLYMPIC
v BRISBANE UNITED
v SYDNEY CROATIA

Austral Park 7.45pm
Leichhardt Oval 7pm
Melita Stadium 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Marconi Stadium 7pm
Olympic Village 6pm
Somers Street 6pm

SCORE



SCORE

Austral Park 7.45pm
Middle Park 6pm
Connor Res. 6pm
Leichhardt Oval 7pm
Melita Stadium 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Croatian Spts C 7pm

ROUND 17 Sun January 12

BRISBANE UNITED
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
PRESTON MAKEDONIA
SYDNEY OLYMPIC
WOLLONGONG CITY
ADELAIDE CITY
SYDNEY CROATIA

v MELBOURNE CROATIA
v MELITA EAGLES
v APIA LEICHHARDT
v HEIDELBERG UNITED
v MARCONI
v WEST ADELAIDE
v NEWCASTLE BHP

Perry Park 7pm
Middle Park 6pm
Connor Reserve 6pm
St George Stad. 7pm
Brandon Park 6pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Croatian Spts C 7pm

SCORE

SCORE

Marconi Stadium 7pm
Perry Park 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Olympic Village 6pm
Somers Street 6pm
St George Stad. 7pm
Brandon Park 6pm

ROUND 18 Sun January 19

MARCONI
BRISBANE UNITED
APIA LEICHHARDT
MELITA EAGLES
WEST ADELAIDE
HEIDELBERG UNITED
MELBOURNE CROATIA

v ADELAIDE CITY
v SYDNEY CROATIA
v NEWCASTLE BHP
v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
v WOLLONGONG CITY
v SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Marconi Stadium 7pm
Perry Park 7pm
Leichhardt Oval 7pm
Melita Stadium 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Olympic Village 6pm
Somers Street 6pm

SCORE

SCORE

Austral Park 7.45pm
Middle Park 6pm
Connor Reserve 6pm
Leichhardt Oval 7pm
Melita Stadium 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Croatian Spts C 7pm

ROUND 19 Sun February 9

NEWCASTLE BHP
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
PRESTON MAKEDONIA
SYDNEY OLYMPIC
WOLLONGONG CITY
ADELAIDE CITY
SYDNEY CROATIA

v MELITA EAGLES
v MARCONI
v WEST ADELAIDE
v BRISBANE UNITED
v MELBOURNE CROATIA
v HEIDELBERG UNITED
v APIA LEICHHARDT

Austral Park 7.45pm
Middle Park 6pm
Connor Res. 6pm
St George Stad. 7pm
Brandon Park 6pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Croatian Spts C 7pm

SCORE

SCORE

Perry Park 7pm
Croatian Spts C 7pm
Olympic Village 6pm
Somers Street 6pm
St George Stad. 7pm
Brandon Park 6pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm

ROUND 20 Sun February 16

MARCONI
BRISBANE UNITED
MELITA EAGLES
WEST ADELAIDE
HEIDELBERG UNITED
MELBOURNE CROATIA
SYDNEY OLYMPIC

v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
v WOLLONGONG CITY
v APIA LEICHHARDT
v NEWCASTLE BHP
v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
v ADELAIDE CITY
v SYDNEY CROATIA

Marconi Stadium 7pm
Perry Park 7pm
Melita Stadium 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Olympic Village 6pm
Somers Street 6pm
St George Stad. 7pm

SCORE

SCORE

Middle Park 6pm
Connor Res. 6pm
Austral Park 7.45pm
Leichhardt Oval 7pm
Melita Stadium 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Marconi Stadium 7pm

ROUND 21 Sun February 23

NEWCASTLE BHP
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
PRESTON MAKEDONIA
APIA LEICHHARDT
WOLLONGONG CITY
ADELAIDE CITY
SYDNEY CROATIA

v MARCONI
v MELBOURNE CROATIA
v HEIDELBERG UNITED
v WEST ADELAIDE
v SYDNEY OLYMPIC
v BRISBANE UNITED
v MELITA EAGLES

Austral Park 7.45pm
Middle Park 5.30pm
Connor Res. 5.30pm
Leichhardt Oval 7pm
Brandon Park 6pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Croatian Spts C 7pm

SCORE

SCORE

Connor Res. 6pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 6pm
Brandon Park 6pm
St George Stad. 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Marconi Stadium 7pm
Olympic Village 6pm

ROUND 22 Sun March 1

MARCONI
BRISBANE UNITED
WEST ADELAIDE
HEIDELBERG UNITED
MELBOURNE CROATIA
SYDNEY OLYMPIC
WOLLONGONG CITY

v APIA LEICHHARDT
v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
v MELITA EAGLES
v NEWCASTLE BHP
v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
v ADELAIDE CITY
v SYDNEY CROATIA

Marconi Stadium 7pm
Perry Park 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Olympic Village 3pm
Somers Street 3pm
St George Stad. 7pm
Brandon Park 6pm

SCORE

SCORE

Middle Park 6pm
Somers Park 6pm
Perry Park 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 6pm
Melita Stadium 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Croatian Spts C 7pm

ROUND 23 Sun March 8

NEWCASTLE BHP
PRESTON MAKEDONIA
APIA LEICHHARDT
MELITA EAGLES
ADELAIDE CITY
SYDNEY CROATIA
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS

v MELBOURNE CROATIA
v BRISBANE UNITED
v HEIDELBERG UNITED
v MARCONI
v WOLLONGONG CITY
v WEST ADELAIDE
v SYDNEY OLYMPIC (MON 9)

Austral Park 7.45pm
Connor Res. 3pm
Leichhardt Oval 7pm
Melita Stadium 7pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm
Croatian Spts C 7pm
Middle Park 3pm

SCORE

ROUND 24 Sun March 15

BRISBANE UNITED
MARCONI
HEIDELBERG UNITED
MELBOURNE CROATIA
SYDNEY OLYMPIC
WOLLONGONG CITY
ADELAIDE CITY

v NEWCASTLE BHP
v WEST ADELAIDE
v MELITA EAGLES
v APIA LEICHHARDT
v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
v SYDNEY CROATIA

Perry Park 7pm
Marconi Stadium 3pm
Olympic Village 3pm
Somers Street 3pm
St George Stad. 7pm
Brandon Park 6pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm

SCORE

ROUND 25 Sun March 22

NEWCASTLE BHP
MARCONI
SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS
PRESTON MAKEDONIA
APIA LEICHHARDT
MELITA EAGLES
WEST ADELAIDE

v SYDNEY OLYMPIC
v SYDNEY CROATIA
v ADELAIDE CITY
v WOLLONGONG CITY
v BRISBANE UNITED
v MELBOURNE CROATIA
v HEIDELBERG UNITED

Austral Park 7.45pm
Marconi Stad. 3pm
Middle Park 3pm
Connor Res. 3pm
Leichhardt Oval 3pm
Melita Stadium 3pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 8pm

SCORE

ROUND 26 Sun March 29

HEIDELBERG UNITED
MELBOURNE CROATIA
BRISBANE UNITED
SYDNEY OLYMPIC
WOLLONGONG CITY
ADELAIDE CITY
SYDNEY CROATIA

v MARCONI
v WEST ADELAIDE
v MELITA EAGLES
v APIA LEICHHARDT
v NEWCASTLE BHP
v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
v SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS

Olympic Village 3pm
Somers Street 3pm
Perry Park 3pm
St George Stad. 3pm
Brandon Park 3pm
Hindmarsh Stad. 2.30pm
Croatian Spts C 3pm

SCORE

PARRAMATTA MELITA EAGLES S.C. LTD YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

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THURSDAY U/15 17th, 24th, 31st Oct. — 7th Nov.
FRIDAYS U/17 18th, 25th, 1st Nov. — 8th Nov.

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SBS comes to rescue!

In one of the biggest television sporting deals in Australia, SBS Television and the Australian Soccer Federation announced last week the signing of a major agreement giving SBS exclusive coverage of the National Soccer League competition and all internationals played by Australia's national teams.

Starting this Sunday, October 6, SBS will be covering all the major games in the NSL competition for an initial three-year team.



"As the world game, soccer has huge potential in this country, especially as a televised sport," Mr Lloyd-James said. "And there is no more multicultural sport than soccer so it is particularly pleasing to see it so well-placed on Australia's multicultural network."

Chairman of the

proved its ability to provide outstanding coverage of the sport and I look forward to Australian audiences enjoying the fullest possible coverage of national and international games".

None worked harder for the return of domestic soccer to SBS than the network's Head of Sport, Dominic Galati, the man who brought the World Cup to Australia.

Top SBS sports presenter, Les Murray, will host the new soccer programs which will start with coverage of the first round of the NSL competition.

Andy Paschalidis and Johnny Warren will also be involved.



SBS Head of Sport Dominic Galati and Presenter Les Murray

SBS has also secured a seven-year contract with the ASF for coverage of all Socceroo internationals.

Announcing the agreement, SBS's Head of Television, Andy Lloyd-James, said he was delighted the network was able to play a prominent role in the development of Australian soccer.

Australian Soccer Federation, Mr John Constantine, said his major concern was the development of soccer in Australia and he could not find a better 'home' for the sport than SBS Television.

"SBS has always been the soccer station", Mr Constantine said.

"It has consistently

The program will initially be scheduled on Sundays at 10.30pm, starting October 6. But this timeslot will be reviewed at an early date to allow greater access to young people.

A weekly preview program will be introduced from Friday, November 15, starting at 6.00pm and other programs will be developed in due course.

These programs, as well as the Match of the Day, will be designed to attract younger viewers around Australia.

"This now gives SBS a full score of soccer coverage" said Andy Lloyd-James, "headed by the best of Australian soccer and including the full FA Cup series, 'The Road To Wembley', World Soccer, European Football, Italian Soccer, the European Championships and the World Cup".

Indeed, with so many hours of soccer a week, Australian fans are amongst the luckiest in the world.

Few countries devote as many television hours to the sport as Australia does.

Brescia in with another \$500,000

Marconi-Fairfield Soccer Club has again secured the support of leading furniture retailer Brescia Furniture for a further three seasons.

The announcement of the sponsorship valued at \$500,000 was made at the lunch of Marconi into the new season by club president Tony Labbozzetta last Sunday.

"Brescia Furniture have been with us for the past three seasons and the relationship is one of the primary reasons for the continuing success we have enjoyed at Marconi," said Mr Labbozzetta.

The sponsorship, unequalled in the National Soccer League, will certainly give Marconi a huge lift as it prepares to challenge for the National League title it last won three seasons ago.

Marconi looks set to field a team finely balanced with experienced campaigners and some of the finest young talent in the country this season.

Eight of the squad are full internationals, four are members of the cur-



rent Olympic Games team and three were involved in the recent campaign for the World Youth Championships.

Hardworking midfielder Ian Gray and popular striker David Lowe are both current Socceroos.

Newly signed defender Milan Blagojevic would have been in Europe with the Olympic Games team had that tour not been cancelled.

Blagojevic is equally at home as an attacking fullback or at sweeper.

Central defender Steve Georgakis, attacking midfielder John Markovski and the League's leading goalscorer of the past two NSL seasons, David Seal, would also have made the trip to Europe and will certainly play major roles in the remaining Olympic qualifying matches.

Seal, of course, has recently returned from Portugal where he spearheaded the Australian attack at the World Youth Championships.

He was joined in that team by young midfielder Steve Corica, a Queenslander (from Cairns) who appears ready to play a major role in Marconi's League campaign.

The third Marconi youth international, goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer, was the unluckiest member of that squad, breaking a bone in his hand just prior to the championships.

Mark is a fine young prospect who will challenge hard this year for the custodian's role capably held for so long by big Bobby Catlin.

In defence, Marconi welcome back Gary Van Egmond after a stint with Dutch Club Roda JC.

Van Egmond will complete a full international defence with Blagojevic, Georgakis, left back Jean-Paul de Marigny and long-serving skipper Steve Calderan.

The Marconi midfield will again be the envy of NSL clubs with Ian Gray, Tommy McCulloch and new buy Gus Cerro.

Cerro, a gifted playmaker, caught the eye with Parramatta-Melita last season.

The strength of the Marconi midfield is evidenced by the release of Peter Katholos.

The final acquisition for 1991/92 is former St George striker Andy Harper.

After finishing fourth on the goalscorers' list last season with 14 goals, Harper will press hard for a place in the Marconi front line.

Coach Berti Mariani is entering his fifth season at the helm of Marconi and his record of two Championships, a Grand Final loss and a fourth placing puts him in the very top flight of coaches in this country.

Twice voted "Coach of the Year" (1988 and 1989), Mariani heads up the League's most professional set-up with an insistence on commitment and dedication.



Marconi striker David Lowe and his new teammate Gus Cerro

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Like old wine John keeps on improving

ROCHEDALE Rovers player-coach John Stewart has capped a great year for his club with victory in the Queensland Soccer Federation Gold Medal for best and fairest XXXX League player.

Stewart, 32, has guided his side to a grand final position in only his second season of coaching.

The former Socceroo squad member has alternated between sweeper and midfield this season and has been a driving force in his side's run to the final.

"The medal win is really a complete surprise to me," he said.

"Usually with these sort of awards, players from the top clubs take points off each other, but it's still a great thrill to win it.

"To my mind, it's the most prestigious award in Queensland soccer."

Stewart was voted the Queensland Soccer Press player of the year in 1985, but this is his first Gold Medal win.

**FINAL POINTS
1991 QSF
GOLD MEDAL**

J. Stewart Rochdale Rover 26, J. Stipancic Brisbane Croatia 25, M. Kirsopp Mt Gravatt 20, K. Cooper Rochdale Rover 18, P. Cockbain Nerang 17, J. McDonagh North Star 17, J. Schiavo Pine Rivers 17, C. Koch Pine Rivers 16, K. Meadcock Brisbane Croatia 15, D. Hillier Brisbane Lions 15, F. Stone Nerang 13, A. Stowell Brisbane Lions 13, S. Glockner Taringa Rovers 13, C. Phelan Eastern Subs 13, F. Pimblett Eastern Subs 13, F. Mengotti Brisbane Lions 12, L. Howells Rochdale Rovers 11, B. Jefford Coalstars 11, S. Perry Eastern Subs 11, S. Woodruffe Mt Gravatt 10, L. Scriggins North Star 10.

GUY HAND LOOKS AT THE SUNSHINE STATE

Despite his success for Rochdale on and off the field this season, Stewart was non-committal about his plans for 1992.

He said he would play again, but was unsure about whether he would coach.

"I've been invited to coach Rochdale again next year, but I'll have a bit of a rest for a month and then I'll decide," Stewart said.

"That said, I do enjoy combining the two things — playing and coaching."

The combination of duties hasn't affected Stewart's on-field performances — if anything, it's given his game a new edge.

Stewart has been one of the most consistent players in Australian soccer since he returned to Brisbane in 1983 to play for Mt Gravatt after five years overseas.

He soon transferred to Brisbane Lions, then a National Soccer League club, where he made his mark in midfield.

After a brief flirtation with Australian selection during a much-publicised mix-up with his brother Russell in 1984, he finally made the Socceroo squad in 1986.

Stewart transferred south to NSL club Preston in 1987 for \$17,000, where he spent three seasons.

He returned to Queensland in August 1989 and signed to play for Rochdale in 1990.

When Rovers sacked coach Allan Jones in April last year, Stewart took on the role of player-coach.

With Stewart re-appointed at the helm, Rovers opened the purse strings this season to sign a number of top players, including this season's leading marksman Kieran Cooper from Brisbane City, Alan Niven, Lee Howells, Paddy Dillon and Andrew Hobbs.

Rovers' purchases have helped them to their first XXXX League grand final and Stewart said most of the players were set to remain with the club next season.

"The players are all very happy at Rochdale," Stewart said.

"They seem to like the direction that the club is taking and it's a really good atmosphere here."

The Queensland soccer media player of the year award went to Pine Rivers striker Clayton Koch, with Stewart picking up the media's coach of the year.

Coalstars' teenage midfielder Brently Jefford was named rookie of the year, while the leading referee's award went to the ultra-consistent Peter Hulme.



John Stewart

Give Poor Old Joe a map next time round

A good street directory could have proved the difference between winning and losing the QSF Gold Medal for Brisbane Croatia striker Joe Stipancic.

Stipancic finished second in the medal count on 25 votes, one vote behind Rochdale veteran John Stewart.

But the nuggety Stipancic was late for his side's second last fixture match against Brisbane City at Spencer Park because he couldn't find the ground and failed to play a full game.

"We couldn't find the place because it's been so many years since I've been there," Stipancic said.

It proved a costly mix-up, as two votes

from that game could have snared the medal for the Croatian striker.

"It doesn't matter now," Stipancic said.

"I'm just going to try and come back bigger and better next season."

His Brisbane City mix-up is the only wrong direction Stipancic has taken all season.

Stipancic, 22, has no trouble finding his way to goal, scoring 10

XXXX League goals and impressing many keen judges in Croatia's first season back in the top flight after a stint in Division Two.

He and fellow striker Kevin Meacock have been instrumental in Croatia's run to the finals series.

Now Stipancic has his sights set on playing in the National Soccer League — but not for Queensland club Brisbane United.

Brisbane Croatia do not fund the Queensland NSL club, ruling Stipancic out of playing NSL in his home State.

"I've got a dream and I want to follow that dream," Stipancic said.

Stipancic, a painter, has had no trouble getting released from work to further his soccer aspiration — his father is his boss.

Victoria is the firm favourite



KEN KAISER

VICTORIA must be regarded as having a walk up start in the National Youth Championship, which will be contested at Valentine Sports Park, Parklea, from Tuesday, October 8 to Saturday, October 12.

The Victorians have a contingent of no less than 12 players stationed at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

Aside from time allocated to studies, they have the advantage of full time concentration on learning their football disciplines close to all the year round.

Last time around Victoria lost the final 1-0 to New South Wales, but this year the squad's continuous football training must see them installed as warm favourites.

NSW should again put on a good showing, and their squad is Craig King, Derek Poimer (Apia-Leichhardt), Matthew Heighway (Blacktown City), Spyros Kladis (Canterbury-Marr), Alan Stajic, Godwin Spiteri (Parramatta Melita), David Magrone (Pt Hacking), Peter Tsekennis, Darren Elkin (St George), Tony Alilovic, Ante Moric, Merko Jirij, Ante Milicic, John Perosh (Sydney Croatia), and Ari Triantafyllou (Sydney Olympic).

South Australia, however, could well prove to be the dark horses of the tournament.

They were probably the best footballing side last year, although they did not bring home the bacon.

Many of their squad were at the Australian Schoolboys Championships in Brisbane, where they showed some excellent qualities.

Queensland will find it difficult to perform up to their potential.

The team will be under the control of Jim Selby, who has only recently taken over as Queensland Director of Coaching.

He has not had anything like the time he would have hoped for to prepare his players.

The coaches in this prestigious series include David Lee

(NSW), Ken Kaiser (NNSW), Jim Selby (Old), Carlos Buzzetti (Sth Aust), Les Bée (Tas), Tim White (Vic) and John Ward (West Aust).

The groupings are drawn as:

GROUP A: 1. NSW, 2. Queensland, 3. Western Australia, 4. Northern NSW.

GROUP B: 5. Victoria, 6. South Australia, 7. ACT, 8. Tasmania.

Tuesday 9.30am NSW vs Queensland; 11.15am WA vs Northern NSW; 1.30pm Victoria vs SA; 3.15pm ACT vs Tasmania.

Wednesday 9.30am NSW vs WA; 11.15am Queensland vs Northern NSW; 1.30pm Victoria vs ACT; 3.15pm SA vs Tasmania.

The championships a resounding success

A very hard fought State Championships and then victory in the Australian Primary Schools Sports Association National Soccer Championships saw a very successful year conclude for the NSW PSSA Soccer programme.

The National Championships played in very hot and humid conditions in Queensland and the Sunshine Coast produced a very tough and close championship.

After the long plane and bus ride, the boys were then billeted out to local families, whose hospitality was very much appreciated by everyone.

NSW's first opponents were the local Sunshine Coast outfit. Overcoming the hot conditions NSW ended up comfortable 2-0 winners, thanks to goals from Tim Cahill and Peter "Junky" Junkiewicz.

Day 2 saw a mixed day for NSW. Their first opponents for the day were the ACT, who started off in sensatio-

nal style when they were awarded a penalty in the first minute of the game. Down 1-0, NSW were stung into action, and soon equalised through an own goal and then "Junky" put NSW ahead just before half-time. A second goal by "Junky" and a superb free kick by Nicholas Pizzano saw NSW comfortably home 4-1.

The second game for the day saw NSW come up against Queensland. After gaining an early lead through "Junky", NSW succumbed to a better side on the day and finally went down 1-3.

A rest day on Day 3 meant the boys could enjoy the picturesque scenery around the Sunshine Coast, with a trip on a catamaran and then a visit to the Underwater World. A good day was had by all concerned.

It was back to business on Day 4, which for NSW was the most important. A 3-0 victory over the ACT, through goals from Cahill, Mark Hagger and Luke Tomich, saw NSW come up against Queensland in the all important clash. Victory would see NSW home, however, a loss

would mean second place. Both sides never gave an inch and it was not until just before half-time that NSW got the upperhand when Pandi Khadar scored. NSW then got the breathing space it needed when Tomich scored shortly after half-time. Queensland not to be outdone fought back bravely scoring five minutes from full-time and nearly forcing a draw right on the final whistle.

Day 5 saw the pressure off NSW as they cruised to a 2-0 victory over the Sunshine Coast.

A special tribute was paid to the boys by their coach Greg Voss who said "the sportsmanship shown by the NSW players was outstanding and their ability to mix with the other players was great". Every player performed with distinction, with a couple of players standing out for individual efforts including Peter "Junky" Junkiewicz for his 4 goals, and Murray Heselhurst, the NSW goalkeeper for his outstanding performance in the 2nd game against Queensland to make sure of a NSW victory.

APIA gets its act in order for big scheme

Robbie Wheatley reports

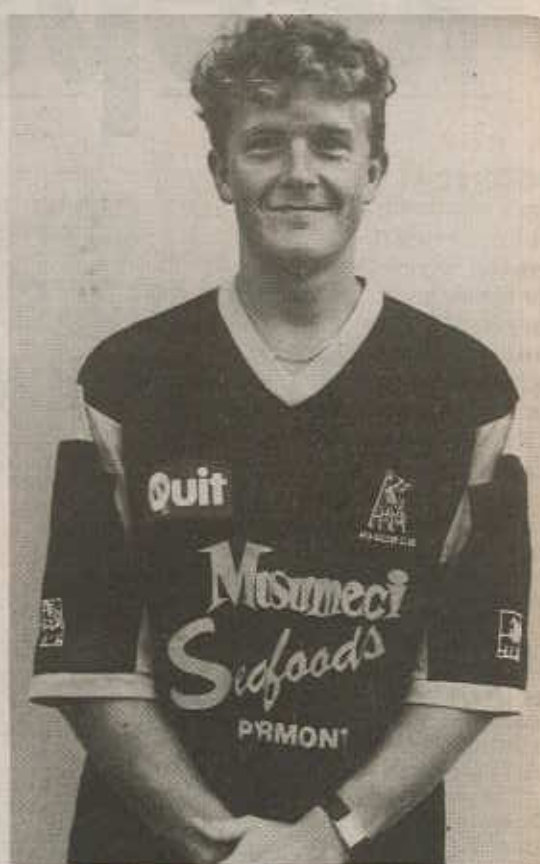
While NSW secretaries, coaches and presidents work frantically to ensure that their respective squad is in perfect working order for the commencement of the 1991/92 season, the efforts of clubs' newly appointed development officers are also in motion attempting to ignite enthusiasm from a different market segment.

Their day to day role of promoting soccer has already begun with Apia's Brian Ellem taking strategic steps to ensure that his schools development program is properly introduced to the people who will be largely affected by it.

Apia's official launch of their development program took place at Lambert Park last Thursday, ironically at a venue that has housed many great Apia sides of the past, but will not be used by the club in this year's competition.

Local school children from nearby Leichhardt Primary, Abbotsford and Drummoyn schools provided the participants for the practical side of the launch. They were coached by Apia players Rod Brown and Darren Stewart together with Kim Schaefer (daughter of head coach Manfred) in an hour long series of activities designed by Brian to introduce young children to the various introductory elements of soccer. Brian's daily role during the season will be to visit local primary and high schools to continue his role as travelling 'soccer salesman' and also make himself available to the local area for a variety of promotional activities.

The local Canterbury Soccer Association will be the focus of the majority of the club's early work with responsibility for the neighbouring Manly-Warringah and Kuring-



BRIAN ELLEM

gai Associations taking up a great deal of next year's junior season.

With the majority of Brian's work being completed in schools local RSOs (Regional Sports Organisers) and Cluster Directors (responsible for a band of primary schools fielding in top a local high school) are invited to attend the launch. Information was provided to outline soccer's new role within the education system to allow for the provision of promotional school visits, the running of Level 0 coaching courses, organising referees courses for teachers and assistance for coaches in selecting and training representative teams.

The scope of the development offices job is wide ranging and he will eventually become a contract point for sport in his part of Sydney or the State.

On the playing front Apia has been dealt a sad blow with loss of recent signing Lawrie McKinna from Blacktown. His future with the club, due to a

broken lower leg, has meant a rest from the game for about 3 months. Tony Franken has strained ligaments in the knee after his collision with McKinna but his future is considerably brighter with an imminent return to the game.

Schaefer has delved into the interstate market by signing the Juventus duo Jeff Doyle (defender) and Rino Minichiello (striker) from the Melbourne based club.

The update on the question of Apia's home ground was complicated with the work being completed at Leichhardt Oval, which means that its availability is restricted to their 4th home game.

Concord Oval will be used by Apia for the opening 3 games. The future use of Leichhardt Oval is also uncertain towards the end of the NSL season and arrangements will have to be finished in the very near future for the success of the club's development program to be assisted in every possible way.

Advertising COACHES PLAYERS WANTED

John Economos
☎ 02 660 2033
Greg Blake
☎ 03 663 4411

ITALY

Cagliari 0 Torino 1, Cremonese 1 Atalanta 2, Fiorentina 0 Roma 1, Foggia 1 Parma 1, Juventus 2 Bari 0, Lazio 0 Internazionale 1, AC Milan vs Genova (match suspended, field unplayable), Napoli 3 Verona 1, Sampdoria 4, Ascoli 0.

STANDINGS

Juventus	8
Sampdoria	7
Napoli	7
Roma	7
Inter	7
Lazio	6
Foggia	6
AC Milan	6
Torino	6
Parma	6
Genova	5
Atalanta	5
Fiorentina	3
Bari	2
Cagliari	2
Cremonese	2
Verona	2
Ascoli	1

GREECE

AEK 3 Ethnikos 0, Panionios 1 Doxa 3, Aris 1 Korinthos 0, OFI 1 Xanthi 0, Heraklis 0 Apollon 2, Larissa 0 PAOK 0, Panathinaikos 3 Athinaikos 1, Olympiakos 5 Aierikos 0.

Latest overseas results & tables

STANDINGS

Panathinaikos	8
Olympiakos	8
Doxa	7
Apollon	7
PAOK	7
AEK	6
Aris	6
OFI	5
Panahaiki	5
Heraklis	5
Pierikos	5
Xanthi	4
Larissa	4
Panionios	4
Panseraikos	4
Ethnikos	2
Korinthos	2
Athinaikos	1

PORTUGAL

Chaves 0 Porto 1, Gil Vicente 1 Salgueiros 0, Guimaraes 2 Penafiel 2, Maritimo 0 Braga 0, Pacos Ferreira 0 Famacao 1, Torreense 1 Benfica 3. Played on Saturday: Boavista 2 Farense 0, Estoril 1 Beira Mar 0, Sporting 3 Uniao Madeira 0.

STANDINGS

Porto	9
Boavista	9
Benfica	8
Guimaraes	8
Sporting	7
Chaves	7
Salgueiros	6

SPAIN

Sporting Gijon 2 Barcelona 1, Real Madrid 3 Sevilla 1, Logrones 0 Athletic Bilbao 1, Deportivo Coruna 1 Real Valladolid 0, Albacete 0 Cadiz 1, Real Burgos 3 Tenerife 1, Real Mallorca 0 Valencia 1, Espanol 3 Osasuna 2, Real Sociedad 0 Atletico Madrid 2, Real Zaragoza 3 Real Oviedo 2.

STANDINGS

A. Madrid	8
Real Madrid	8
Sevilla	6
Sporting G.	6
Real Burgos	5
Real Oviedo	5
Valencia	5
Barcelona	4



FRANCE

Rennes 0 Paris St Germain 0, Sochaux 3 Nantes 1, Metz 1 Cannes 2, Toulouse 0 Le Havre 0, Lens 1 Montpellier 1, Nimes 2 Lyon 1, St Etienne 3 Nancy 0, Auxerre 1 Marseille 1, Caen 1 Monaco 0.

STANDINGS

Monaco	19
Marseille	18
Paris SG	17
Nantes	15
Lille	14

GERMANY

Dynamo Dresden 0 Duisburg 0, Schalke 3 Karlsruhe 1, Fortuna Dusseldorf 0 Werder Bremen 0, Eintracht Frankfurt 3 Borussia

Dortmund 0, Hamburg 1 VfB Stuttgart 1, Kaiserslautern 4 Borussia Moenchengladbach 2, Stuttgart Kickers 1 Hansa Rostock 1, Cologne 1 Wattenscheid 1, Nuremberg 1 Bayern Munich 1, Bochum 0 Bayer Leverkusen 2.

STANDINGS

E. Frankfurt	15
VfB Stuttgart	15
Bayer L.	15
Hamburg	14
Kaisersl.	13
Duisburg	12
Nuremberg	12
Bayern Munich	12



AUSTRIA

FC Stahl Linz 2 DSV Alpine 0, Admira Wacker 3 Vienna 1, Kremser SC 0 Vorwaerts Steyr 0, FK Tyrol 4 VSE St Polten 2, Rapid Vienna 2 Sturm Graz 2, Austria Salzburg 1 Austria Vienna 0.

STANDINGS

Austria Salzburg 21, Austria Vienna 20, FK Tyrol 18, FC Stahl Linz 18, Admira Wacker 17, Rapid Vienna 16, Sturm Graz 12.

REP. OF IRELAND

Athlone 1 Dundalk 2, Bohemians 1 Shamrock Rovers 1, Bray Wanderers 0 Shelbourne 1, Drogheda 0 Galway 0, St Patrick's Athletic 0 Derry 1.

BELGIUM

Waregem 2 Antwerp 1, Molenbeek 2 Ghent 3, Lokeren 1 Aalst 1, Charleroi 0, Standard Liege 2, Mechelen 6 Cercle Bruges 0, Club Bruges 3 Genk 0, FC Liege 2 Lierse 3, Beveren 3 Kortrijk 0, Ekeren 0 Anderlecht 4.

STANDINGS

Anderlecht	14
Mechelen	13
Club Bruges	11
Ghent	10
Standard L.	10
Lierse	9
C. Bruges	9
Waregem	8

HOLLAND

Vitesse Arnhem 1 PSV Eindhoven 2, FC Volendam 2 MVV Maastricht 0, FC Den Haag 0 FC Utrecht 0, Sparta Rotterdam 3 FC Twente Enschede 2, Willem II Tilburg 1 Feyenoord Rotterdam 4.

STANDINGS

Vitesse A.	13
Sparta Rot.	13
PSV Eind.	12
F. Rotterdam	12
FC Twente E.	12
Roda JCK.	12
Ajax Amsterdam	11

SOUTH AMERICA with Mario Etchart

ARGENTINA's chief public prosecutor has called for drug charges against Diego Maradona to be reduced so that he could receive a suspended sentence and be treated for his addiction to cocaine.

The former Argentine and Napoli captain was arrested with two friends at a Buenos Aires flat last April and charged with cocaine possession and offering drugs to others for free.

It found guilty of those offences he could face up to 12 years in jail.

In a written statement, prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo urged that Maradona, 30, be given a light sentence and undergo treatment for his addiction.

"I believe it is absolutely essential the charges be modified so that the accused are not precluded from treatment, in particular Diego Armando Maradona, who doctors have said suffers addiction and dependence on cocaine," Ocampo's four-page statement read.

He proposed the charges be reduced to "possession for personal use", which carries a maximum two-year sentence and is normally suspended if the convicted agrees to undergo treatment.

Last Wednesday week a Naples court convicted Maradona for possession of cocaine and gave him a 14-month suspended sentence and a \$4,700 fine.

Maradona was not present at the trial. He has remained with his wife and two daughters in Buenos Aires since returning from Italy in April.

Ruben Paz

Brilliant Uruguayan attacking midfielder Ruben Paz has returned to Penarol of Uruguay after playing the last season with Argentine club Racing.

Penarol paid Racing a reported \$170,000 for Paz's transfer.

The Uruguayan international, who signed for two seasons, decided to leave Racing after a row with the club's president and the coach, ex-Argentine international Roberto Perfumo.

Top Company

Peruvian coach Miguel Company is the new coach of Colombian club Deportivo Cali.

Company was in charge of Peru's national team in the recent Copa America and his work was praised by the international media.

"I would like to win with a team that plays attractive football, with sensibility, with style, with identity."

"If we can achieve all that, then we will be as strong as clubs like America de Cali or Atletico Nacional of Medellin," said the coach after his arrival in Colombia.

The controversial tactician also said that to accomplish those objectives, he has a good squad with talented players in youngsters Carlos Estrada,



Napoli's Brazilian ace Careca

Colombian international Bernardo Redin, Paraguayan Jorge Avila and Miguel Calvo, arguably the best goalkeeper in the country, according to Company.

Company announced the recruitment of Peruvian utility player Percy Olivares, who could well play in any defensive position or in a midfield role.

"My first priority is to take Deportivo Cali to this year's Libertadores final and next season's Colombian championship," he said.

Company can't coach in his own country be-

cause of a three month suspension imposed by the Peruvian Football Association after the last Copa America.

Careca

Napoli's Brazilian striker, Careca, said in an interview published by the Brazilian newspaper "O Globo" that he is tired of playing in Italy, and that he expects to continue his career in France or Spain.

"Italian football is probably the best in the world, but after five seasons it is difficult to cope with the pressure."

"I feel oppressed," said the talented striker.

He ended the interview saying that at the end of his contract with Napoli, he wants to play in France or Spain, where the pressure is not as bad as in Italy and that he never considered going back to play in Brazil because football in his country is very disorganised and, at the moment, of every low quality.

Gala Match

The Argentine national team defeated a South American XI coached by Uruguayan Luis Cubilla, 2-1, in a friendly international played at Buenos Aires' River Plate Stadium in front of 20,000 spectators last week.

The match was part of the South American Football Confederation's 75th anniversary celebrations.

The South American side opened the scoring in the fifth minute through Paraguayan Roberto Cabanas, who took advantage of a defensive blunder by goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea.

But three minutes later, Argentine captain Oscar Ruggeri equalised with a header, and Claudio Garcia, through a doubtful penalty, converted the winner for the Copa America champions in the 35th.

Debutante Juan Jose Borrelli was voted "man of the match", while Peruvian midfielder Jose del Solar starred for "The Rest of Americas."

ARGENTINA: Goycochea, Basualdo (Cravotto),

Vazquez, Ruggeri, Altamirano, Zapata, Astrada, Martino, Borrelli (Mannarino 71st), Garcia, Medina Bello.

COACH: Alfio Basile. **"REST OF AMERICA":** Alvez (Uruguay) (Toledo, Chile 45th), Caceres (Paraguay), Revelez (Uruguay), Quinones (Ecuador), Del Solar (Peru), Geovanni (Brazil), Moran (Uruguay), Uzuriaga (Colombia), Maldonado, Venezuela 45th), Cabanas (Paraguay) (Hirano, Bolivia 45th), Gonzales (Paraguay) (De Avila, Colombia 45th).

COACH: Luis Cubilla (Uruguay).

Pelé Honour

The South American Football Confederation, during the celebrations of its 75th Anniversary, honoured the great Pelé with the "Great Golden Collar of the Order of Honour of South American Football Merit" for his brilliant career as a footballer and an outstanding sportsman.

Pelé's sporting name has filled the pages of the modern history of football, with his supreme skills and sportsmanship.

Super-Cup

At the same time as the South American Football Confederation celebrated its 75th anniversary, lots were drawn in Asuncion, Paraguay, for the fourth edition of the Joao Havelange Trophy, commonly known as the South American Super Cup, the competition reserved only for past and present winners of the Copa Libertadores.

The main attraction

this year will be Colo Colo's debut.

Colo Colo will undoubtedly secure huge crowds at all their matches because of the club's enormous popularity in its country.

Colo Colo's opening match will be against Brazilian club Cruzeiro of Belo Horizonte.

The remaining 13 teams are the same that have participated in the Super Cup since its creation in 1988.

Colombian club Atletico Nacional will be the only absentee, as in the previous year.

As in the last two years, Olimpia, of Paraguay, enjoy the privilege of going directly to the second qualifying round.

According to the draw, their opponent will be Argentine club Independiente.

October 1 is the date selected for the Super Cup to begin, and the tournament will be played over eight weeks.

The first phase of the competition will see Racing of Argentina against Penarol of Uruguay, Argentinos Juniors of Argentina vs Santos of Brazil, River Plate of Argentina vs Gremio of Brazil, Estudiantes de La Plata of Argentina vs Flamengo of Brazil, Boca Juniors of Argentina vs Nacional of Uruguay, and Colo Colo of Chile vs Cruzeiro of Brazil.

Independiente and Olimpia, automatically through to the second phase, will meet in Buenos Aires on October 16.

MILAN SET TO REGAIN ITS FORMER GLORIES

AC Milan miss European football and nothing, according to club president Silvio Berlusconi, is going to stop them recapturing their old dominance.



SILVIO BERLUSCONI

"This will be the year of the championship for Milan," says media magnate Berlusconi, reflecting on the dawn of a new era at Italy's most star-studded club.

Berlusconi and his team turned a new page at the end of last season after Milan lost the European Champions' Cup they had held for two years and were suspended for one season for tarnishing their image at Marseille.

Coach Arrigo Sacchi, widely respected for his attractive, attacking ideas, was allowed to leave and in came Fabio Capello, a former international employed in one of Ber-

lusconi's companies.

"After four years everyone felt the need for change," Berlusconi said in a radio interview in Rome.

"The club wanted to regain a say in the buying of player after only the coach had thought about that for three years."

But, surprisingly to some, all three of Milan's foreign stars — Dutch trio Ruud Gullit, Marco van Basten and Frank Rijkaard — were confirmed as members of the squad.

While Berlusconi wanted to retain van Basten, Sacchi had



MARCO VAN BASTEN

wanted him out.

But it is Gullit whose future is now the most doubtful of the three.

European Footballer of the Year in 1988, Gullit has never been the same superb player he was during the 1989 European triumph following the onset of his knee problems.

"We all remember him before the injury.

"It's clear something has changed," Berlusconi said.

"Sometimes he looks like he's become the old Gullit again, others not.

"I hope Gullit becomes the Golden Ball (European Footballer of the Year) player he was."

Berlusconi would not be drawn on whether Gullit's form was being monitored with a view to discarding him, especially in the light of Milan's latest signing, talented young Croatian midfielder Zvonimir Boban.

"Milan has three foreigners whom I want to assure (of their places), especially Gullit who must keep calm," he said.

Passions still run high in Iraq

Iraq's national team may be missing from the world soccer stage, but passion for football still runs high at home.

Long the powerhouse of Arab footballing nations, Iraq's 1980-88 war with Iran and 1990 invasion of Kuwait have left the country for lengthy spells on the international sidelines.

Forced to seek international competition outside the country due to a four-year ban by FIFA on home matches, Iraq still won the Gulf Cup tournament three times in the 1980s.

It was favoured to win the 1990 tournament, staged four months before its annexation of Kuwait, but withdrew at the last minute and its tiny neighbour emerged victorious.

In 1986, Iraq reached the World Cup finals in Mexico only to lose all three first-round matches — leading to the dismissal of Brazilian coach Evaristo de Macedo, in charge of the squad for just two months.

To make up for the lack of international competition, last season's top six sides in the 20-team first division organised a pre-season tournament at Baghdad's national Sha'b Stadium last month.

MOTHER

Called the "Mother of All Battles" championship, Iraq's name for its confrontation with the US-led allies in the Gulf War, President Saddam Hussein lavished \$1.3 million on the cup.

The winner's prize of \$585,000 was the largest ever won by an Iraqi sports team.

It went to the country's top club side, Zawra of Baghdad, who stretched an unbeaten run starting last November to 28 games.

In a hard-fought game before 50,000 fans at the Sha'b Stadium, Zawra defeated the air force team Jawwiya 3-1 after extra time.



SADDAM HUSSEIN

It was a robust, hard-fought game with both trainers kept busy throughout and played to an incessant barrage of noise.

But there was plenty of skill to suggest Iraqi soccer is still a force to be reckoned with.

Laith Hussein, a named player of the championship by soccer writers, scored his fourth goal of the tournament to put Zawra 2-1 up early in extra time.

A bid to buy a programme as a souvenir was fruitless as no such thing existed.

In a radical departure from soccer matches elsewhere in the world, entrance was free for all.

But security was intense.

Troops with machine guns mounted on the back of pickup trucks guarded all gates into the ground — no Wembley or San Siro Stadium but on a par with Gothenburg's Ullevi where the final of next June's European championship will be held.

Republican Guard troops, in their distinctive red berets, and regular army soldiers carrying an assortment of rifles and automatic weapons formed a circle around the perimeter of the running track surrounding the pitch.

Plain-clothed bodyguards carrying sub-machine guns guarded the VIP box, where

Saddam's eldest son Uday — chairman of the Iraqi Olympic and football associations — watched the match before awarding the prizes.

It was Zawra's third trophy of the year following a league and cup double last season.

Jawwiya had the consolation of the runners-up prize 100,000 dinars (\$A388.770).

It vindicated Zawra manager Ali Kadhum, a former national juniors coach who was appointed in the close season after former manager Falah Hassan was dismissed despite the club's double.

Several key players moved to other clubs after Falah's sacking and Ali used the tournament to bring younger players into the side.

In addition to the difficulties brought by war on sport in Iraq, the country was also banned by FIFA in 1989 from all competitions under senior level for fielding an over-aged player at the world youth championships.

Asked what effect that ban was having on young Iraqi soccer players, tournament organiser Salam Rashid said: "Sport is the messenger of peace between people and this tournament is a direct challenge to the unfair actions that deprive Iraq's youth of the chance to play against the young players of other countries."

Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER



• Red Star's Darko Pancev was suspended by the club for "saying rude things" to directors who had stopped him accepting Milan's invitation to an exhibition game.

• The Cypriot FA have fined former Soviet star and European Footballer of the Year Oleg Blohin \$400 for allegedly cheating about taxes owed the government during his stint on the island.

• Ladislav Kubala, coach of the Spanish Olympic team, sent to Bratislava to "spy" on France and Czechoslovakia, Spain's Euro-92 Group 1 opponents, returned to Madrid convinced France would win the European title next year in Sweden. "They are the best in Europe — and by a long shot," the all-time great of Hungaro-Spanish soccer declared.

• Jean Sadoul, long-serving president of the French League, has died at the age of 76.

• Eddie Duah, the scorer of Ghana's winning goal in the under-17 world championship final against Spain, has signed for French club Montpellier.

• South Africa's most famous club, Keizer Chiefs, have won the first phase of their championship. And Dynamos beat Blackpool in the first of the national cup. The match was abandoned after an all-in riot when the score stood at 1-1, but the SAFA decided to award the JPS Cup to Dynamos.

PELE DENIES RUMOUR

Pele has denied rumours he has been asked to take over as coach of the national team, an aide to the ex-international said last month.

"Pele never received an invitation and even if he had received

it, he could not accept it because of the enormous amount of commitments he has abroad," Helio Viana told the media.

But he said Pele was considering training a Brazilian team at junior or youth level in 1994. "if his commitments

allow."

Brazil have been without a coach since Paulo Roberto Falcão resigned in August following a row with the CBF. Ernesto Paulo, coach of Rio de Janeiro club Botafogo, was appointed for the match Brazil lost 1-0 to Wales.



Chris Waddles being tackled by Sinisa Binic during the ill-fated, shoot-out-decided 1990-91 European Champions' Cup final.

PENALTY SHOOT-OUTS: FACTS AND FIGURES

SINCE penalty shoot-outs were introduced in 1970-71, 109 teams have been involved in some 82 ties; 19 in the Champions' Cup, 23 in the Cup-winners' Cup and 40 in the UEFA Cup.

Marseille were the first and most recent side to lose a European tie on penalties.

They lost to Spartak Trnava in the 1970-71 Fairs Cup 1st round and they lost to Red Star Belgrade in the 1991 Champions' Cup Final in Bari.

Barcelona hold a couple of unique records: they are the only club to have been involved in penalty shoot-outs twice in each of the three European competitions, they have been involved in more shoot-outs than any other club (six), they have won more than any other club (five) and have lost just one, the 1986 Champions' Cup Final!

Apart from Barcelona, AS Roma are the only other side to have been involved in shoot-outs in each of the three European competitions, losing twice and winning once.

Five teams have been involved in shoot-outs twice in the same competition in the same season.

They are Dynamo



Berlin, Barcelona, Dynamo Moscow, FK Austria and Hajduk Split.

Indeed, Barcelona have managed the feat twice, in the 1985-86 Champions' Cup (semi-final and final) and the 1977-78 UEFA Cup (second and third round).

Ajax and PAOK Salonika have the worst penalty shoot-out records in European competitions.

They have both been involved in three, and have both lost all three.

In 1977-78 saw the highest number of penalty shot-outs in a season with nine.

Two in the Champions' Cup, four in the Cup-winners' Cup and three in the UEFA Cup.

Italy and Spain lead the rankings in terms of European penalty shoot-outs involving their clubs with 16 matches each.

Spain and England share the record for the most number of teams involved in European shoot-outs with 10 each.



Norwegian national team defender Kaare Ingelbrigten, whose club side, Rosenborg, was thrashed 5-0 by Sampdoria in the first leg of the European Champions' Cup.

Tapie defends Tomislav Ivic

OLYMPIQUE Marseille president Bernard Tapie has come to the defence of his Yugoslav coach Tomislav Ivic.

"Let him get on with his job," said Tapie, who got through three coaches last season.

"I don't need anybody to tell me if and when I need to make any changes."

Ivic came up against a virtual players' revolt led by captain Jean-Pierre Papin.

Things came to a head when he asked Chris Waddle to play further back and the English winger spent 90 minutes at right-back.

Ivic's appointment, replacing veteran Raymond Goethals after the 70-year-old Belgian had led Marseille to last season's European Champions' Cup final against Red Star Belgrade in Bari, shocked everyone in France.

Ivic, when he coached the now-defunct Racing Matra, of Paris, earned a reputation for boring, defensive football.

His latest club, Atletico Madrid, was also accused of a similar approach last season.

The passionate Marseille fans, who like their players to display flair and flamboyance, were surprised, to say the least, when Tapie announced that Ivic was taking over.

Tapie had said he intended to appoint a well-known European manager who had won the Champions' Cup.

Perhaps he meant WILL win, because Ivic, in all his extended travels, all his various successes, has not yet annexed that particular trophy.

Sympathy for Raymond Goethals is mandatory.

To arrive, as an old man from his comfortable cafe in Belgium, to take over a team in turmoil, win the championship and very nearly win the Champions' Cup as well, to get Marseille to the French Cup Final, was surely as much as any reasonable man could expect.

But nobody has ever accused Tapie of being that.

Ivic was in line for the Juventus job when Inter appeared unlikely to release Giovanni Trapattoni to take it.

Then the puff of white smoke went up — somewhat north of the Vatican — Ivic was out of a job.

Now he will no doubt have to win the treble which eluded poor Goethals, or he will be out as well.

Marseille have not been able to overtake Monaco so far this season and the club from



JEAN-PIERRE PAPIN: Bernard Tapie's very first — and best — buy as president of Marseille.

the Riviera principality is still ahead of last year's champions after 10 rounds of the French First Division competition.

Unless Marseille regain the first place their fans believe is theirs by right, Tapie may be forced to rid himself of his new Yugoslav coach.

AUSTRIAN SACKED — AGAIN!

➤ Austrian World Cup coach Josef Hickersberger has been sacked as coach of Germany's Fortuna Dusseldorf. The club is dead last in the league. Hickersberger got the flick after Austria were beaten by the Faroe Islands in a Euro-92 qualifier 12 months ago.

➤ Iceland's most outstanding young prospect, 17-year-old Gudmundur Benediktsson transferred from Thor Akureyri to Germinal Ekeren of Belgium.

ERIC BATTY'S CONTROVERSIAL WORLD TEAM OF THE YEAR

LIKE every year, veteran English soccer writer Eric Batty, picked his ever-controversial "world team of the year" in WORLD SOCCER magazine.

There are two big changes this year to his World XI: the omission of Shilton and Baresi in the defence.

Age has caught up with both of them, and while Shilton is now the goalkeeper coach for the England squad, and seeking a job in management, Baresi is content to stand back and cover, where once he was continuously breaking forward to create.

The legs will not carry him back as fast as they did earlier.

Southall has been an outstanding goalkeeper for several years built like the side of a house, excellent on the high cross, full of courage, rarely guilty of an error.

He also produces more than his fair quota of saves that are in the range of "nearly impossible".

Batty retained the shape of his defence, even though in England, all the league clubs continue to field two full-backs.

They claim that using a "libero" allows their full-backs more scope to attack — but he would rather see two extra players further forward.

Traditional full-backs can never attack with the same degree of skill and accuracy of pass that a natural midfield player can.

Crosses

In addition, the English use their attacking backs to provide high crosses from the flanks, whereas Batty prefers to see the initial breakthrough made around the half-way line, and forward passes dropped in for the feet.

Even on the flanks, a player cutting in from the corner flag, picking out well-placed colleagues and pulling the ball back to the edge of the penalty area for a first time shot is far more productive — and better football.

Prosinecki first caught his attention when he went on as a late substitute at Wembley, the last time Yugoslavia played there.

He was used in a ro-



DEJAN SAVICEVIC: despite the Milan cap, the brilliant midfielder is still a Red Star player this season.

ing, attacking role, and the runs he made "looking" for a penetrating pass showed his vision.

With Red Star, Prosinecki was used more as the universal provider, and he is clearly a brilliant player for one so young.

Attention

Attracting the attention of all the top continental clubs speaks volumes for his ability, and unlike most of the gifted players who can beat a man, Prosinecki knows instinctively WHEN he has created something, and despatches a quick, accurate, controllable pass.

Martin Vazquez 'has been a quality player since his second season with Real Madrid, another infant prodigy, but Savicevic blossomed last year.

Savicevic was always a gifted player, and scored a few goals, but seemed to enjoy dribbling too much.

Now he has learned to use his technique economically and more productively in terms of scoring.

Pancev and his left foot have caught the eye in the past year, and his talents in front of goal brought him so many offers from Italy and Spain that he too could have chosen his club and asked his own price.

But much has been added to his game in terms of controlling the ball that could not be dealt with first-time, and using other parts of his body, taking one touch to make the ball "hittable", and then hitting it.

Classic

There was one classic goal, with Pancev "killing" a driven, high ball with his head, then sweeping the ball into the net before it touched the ground.

Hughes also scored

some special goals, hit with power and accuracy.

At his best he has so much to offer, for his aggression in tackling back, after a move breaks down, and his ability to show himself, receive the ball, play it off first time and break, makes him an outstanding target for combined play.

Frustration with him-

Batty's World XI:

Southall (Wales), Ferri (Italy), Boli (France), Blanc (France), Prosinecki (Yugoslavia), Dunga (Brazil), Savicevic (Yugoslavia), Valdo (Brazil), Martin-Vazquez (Spain), Hughes (Wales), Pancev (Yugoslavia).

self has often pegged back Hughes and he lacked consistency last season but there were distinct signs that the best is re-emerging.

The were other players worthy of a mention.

Papin, the darling of France, is one who will earn a place if he learns to create more for others, and Blanc earned his place ahead of Belodedic (Red Star), only because he also scored goals at regular intervals.

Berti of Inter is a much improved player, with a tremendous work-rate.

Mihailovic, left midfielder for Red Star, is another outstanding player who was close.

Klinsmann has improved a little in his play with the rest of the Inter team; and Matthaus is not running with the ball so much, which makes them better players.



RABAH MADJER

MADJER TO COACH

ALGERIA's best-ever player, Rabah Madjer, has decided against accepting an offer to play in Tunisia.

Instead, he has been lured into accepting the position of Algerian national team assistant-coach.

In 1994, the head coaching job will be his, and if Algeria qualifies for the finals in the US, the former Porto star will be in charge.

Meanwhile, despite his position as assistant-coach, he is taking part — as a player —

in the Afro-Asian Cup now in progress.

Besides Tunisia, Spanish club Malaga and Qatar had put out feelers for the brilliant 33-year-old striker.

STEELERS SWITCH AGAIN!

IF you're looking for a coaching job with a future, stay away from the Hamilton Steelers of the Canadian Soccer League.

Since they began playing in the CSL in 1987 they have changed coaches ten times!

The latest casualty is former Canadian international John McGrane, who was fired by owner Mario Di Bartolomeo.

McGrane has been replaced by Gerry Gray, recently signed from the Toronto Blizzard.

In addition to McGrane, Hamilton's list of former coaches includes Kevin Grant, John Charles, Bruce Wilson, Dave Turner, Justin Fashanu and Vid Horvat (three times).

In the hope of capturing the championship from the Vancouver 86ers, Toronto Blizzard have obtained Dale Mitchell and Doug Muirhead from the west coast club and Billy Domazetis, as well as Fashanu, from Hamilton.

NEW COACH

FC Koln, the German First Division team doing badly this season, have named Joerg Berger as their new coach.

Berger, sacked by Eintracht Frankfurt last season, replaces Erich Rutemoller who was dismissed two weeks ago.

Berger was in charge for Koln's home game against joint league leaders VfB Stuttgart.

AFRICAN NATIONS' CUP

THE draw has been announced for the 18th African Nations' Cup, to be staged in Senegal on January 12, through to January 26.

The 12 countries have been divided into four groups.

Group A consists of Senegal, Nigeria and Kenya.

Group B includes Cameroun, Morocco and Zaire.

Algeria, Ivory Coast and Congo make up Group C and Group D comprises of Egypt, Zambia and Ghana.

All matches will be played in the Senegalese capital of Dakar and in Ziguinchor.

These are the dates for all the games:

- **January 12 (Dakar):** Cameroun v Morocco, Senegal v Nigeria.
- **January 13 (Ziguinchor):** Algeria v Ivory Coast, Egypt v Zambia.
- **January 14 (Dakar):** Nigeria v Kenya, Morocco v Zaire.
- **January 15 (Ziguinchor):** Ivory Coast v Congo, Zambia v Ghana.



Henry Nwasu of Nigeria (left) in action against Angola's Ndun Guidi in qualifying action for the upcoming African Nations' Cup finals.

- **January 16 (Dakar):** Cameroun v Zaire, Senegal v Kenya.
- **January 17 (Ziguinchor):** Algeria v Congo, Egypt v Ghana.
- **January 19/20:** Quarter-finals at Dakar.
- **January 23:** Semi-finals at Dakar.
- **January 25:** 3rd place play-off at Dakar.
- **January 26:** final at Dakar.

ZENGA TOP GOALIE

AC Milan's Italian international goalkeeper Walter Zenga has been voted the best goalkeeper in the world by the International Federation of Soccer Historians and Statisticians.

Zenga made history by winning the prestigious award for the second year in a row — a feat never achieved since

the jury started handing out awards 20 years ago.

Zenga polled 51 votes to finish 14 points ahead of Argentina's Sergio Goygochea.

And in a friendly game in Sofia, Bulgaria beat Italy 2-1. Scorers for Bulgaria, Kostadinov and Stoichkov; Gianni for Italy. Attendance was 20,000 and Gianluca Vialli was sent off.

DOUBLE YELLOW

REFEREES in Germany are now showing a double red/yellow card.

A player who has been booked, but has committed another, mild offence, is shown the two-tone card.

It means a sending-off and an automatic ban for the next match, but without any further disciplinary measures being taken against them.



EDITED BY TOM ANDERSON

MEAN DEAN



Striker Dean Saunders in top form for the Reds

DEAN SAUNDERS' four-goal Euro blast hit the Finnish part timers of Kuusysi Lahti in the pocket as well as wrecking their UEFA Cup hopes.

"We were on £1,000 a man deal, if we only lost the first leg by a goal," said striker Mike Belfield.

"We didn't think anything about it until we brought on a sub when we were 2-1 down late on and the coach said: 'You're 14 minutes away from the bonus.'

Flattered

"Then the roof fell in on us. We got tired, Dean finished up with four and we lost 6-1!"

That's not all the cash damage Dean did. Kuusysi are on another bonus if more than

Saunders blast costs part-timers a packet

10,000 fans pack their tight ground in this week's second leg.

And that looks unlikely with Liverpool so far ahead and the Finnish winter starting.

But it says plenty about the way the Reds were flattered by the Anfield scoreline. And that ex-Womble Belfield believes they can still leave them red-faced and salvage a little dignity.

"The game is over for us, but we're still looking for a good result here."

And he takes the blame for not making harder Liverpool's return to Europe after six years.

"The players were very happy after Anfield despite the scoreline. But we were happy because we didn't expect to be in the game as long as we were."

"Liverpool's fans and players told us it was never the game the scoreline suggested."

"And if I had put away the chances I had in the first half, it might have been interesting."

"I was surprised how open Liverpool's defence was. They are a bit square and a bit slow."

"I know they left gaps because they were attacking so much. Their injury-list also

cost them, and the experience showed."

Savage

However, Liverpool savagely avenged the insult with a 5-0 second leg triumph. But Ian Rush only has good memories of the Finns.

When the Welsh wonder steps out against Kuusysi, it will be almost 10 years to the day since he began his sensational scoring feats with a goal against Oulu Pallo-seura.

And he is a hat-trick away from equalling Roger Hunt's 17 goal European scoring record for Liverpool.

HEART BREAKER

But I'm backing Ossie to lift Geordie gloom

GLENN ROEDER told readers two years ago that Newcastle United's superstar days were over.

But that hasn't lessened the pain felt by the former United skipper at their current plight.

They went into Saturday's game against Derby at the lowest ebb in their colourful history - in a Second Division relegation place and £5 million in debt.

DEBT

Roeder, recovering from an Achilles tendon operation before heading to Italy with former Newcastle team-mate Paul Gascoigne, admits: "It breaks my heart when I read about Newcastle's problems, like that huge debt."

"I love the place. It's a dream of mine to work there again one day. In fact, if the right

opportunity ever arose I'd walk back to the North East."

"I could happily live there for the rest of my life - and I'm a Cockney. That's how much I think of the place."

And Roeder thinks Ossie Ardiles is the man to lift the Geordie gloom despite the poor start he's made to management on Tyneside.

Ardiles' first 20 League matches as United boss produced just three wins and 17 points.

His predecessor - Jim Smith - picked up 31 points from his last 20 League games at St James' Park.

But Roeder says: "I'm certain that, on his previous record at Swindon and from what know about him, he'll

produce good results for Newcastle."

"The patience of Newcastle's fans has been stretched to the limit, but the magnificent thing is that they are patient."

"And I hear they are keeping faith because they like the way Ossie is trying to get Newcastle to play. He believes in style and skill - and that's what the Geordies love."

"The fans there are better than anywhere else - it's easy to be a supporter on Merseyside or in Manchester."

Roeder can see Newcastle improving because he says: "The Second Division is bland - there isn't an outstanding side this season."

"Newcastle are in a ridiculous position and it's hard to pick up after a bad start."

POKER

"But they showed by fighting back to win 4-3 at Crewe in midweek after being 3-0 down, that there's nothing wrong with their spirit."

Newcastle's young side will also be nursed gently by Ardiles.

"I played him many times and I used to think he'd make a hell of a poker player."

"His face is expressionless, you'd never know what was in his hand and he was always ice cool."

"I'm convinced he still can be one at Newcastle," Roeder added on a note of hope for depressed Tyne-side.

United £10m kit deal

MANCHESTER UNITED are to pull off a massive £10 million kit deal.

United are "dropping" Adidas after 11 years as suppliers of the world famous Old Trafford strips.

The First Division leaders are linking up with Umbro in a six-year

deal set to be the most lucrative in British football.

Adidas are shocked by the United decision. They were ready to sign a new four-year deal, having stuck with United through their miserable times.

ASTON VILLA, who have taken South-

ampton's Alan McLoughlin on loan, hope to beat two top German clubs for Berlin 'wonder boy' Stefan Beinlich.

SWEDISH striker Martin Dahlin signed for German side Borussia Moenchengladbach from Malmo on the weekend.

SUPER SOCCER LEADERS ALL YEAR ROUND

TREV'S PLAYING FOR M£££IONS!

TREVOR STEVEN, the England star with £1 million a year at his feet, used to search for fivers with a brush in his hand.

Now he's chasing the European Cup with the fattest wage packet in the history of British football.

His bonuses with French champions Marseille — like the one for beating Luxembourg club Union 5-0 two weeks ago — top it up to around £20,000 a week.

But however much Steven makes on the sun-kissed shores of the Med, he never forgets his days as a poor apprentice with Burnley.

Brush

That's where he was handed a brush and told to sweep the Turf Moor terraces after games.

And where he and his teenage pals used to drive through the mounds of rubbish they collected.

Derek Scott, former Burnley full-back and Steven's old roommate, explained: "It was like a treasure hunt. I was six years older than Trevor and when I was an apprentice, the wages were only £8 a week.

"We'd often find fivers while sweeping the terraces. It was worth your while searching through the rubbish.

"And Trevor did the same jobs as everyone else as an apprentice. He cleaned our boots and painted the outside gates, too."

Scott is from Gazza country. He's a Gateshead lad discovered for Burnley by Peter Kirkley, the same Geordie scout who found Steven, Paul Gascoigne and Peter Beardsley.

Scott and Steven both made their League debut at 17. They shared hotel rooms and a few ups and downs with Burnley.

Now Steven chases

the European Cup as a budding millionaire and Scott, a 33-year-old rep for a scaffolding firm, plays for fun in the John Smith's West Lancashire League.

As level-headed ambassadors for their sport, you'd be hard pushed to separate them.

Luck

Scott, who captained both Burnley and Bolton Wanderers, said: "Good luck to Trevor. I don't disagree with people in the very top echelons of the game earning money like his.

"Other sports stars can earn vast fortunes. Why shouldn't great footballers?

"Me? I had 14 good years being paid for doing something I loved and keeping fit at the same time.

"There are thousands of people who can't say the same. I always knew one day it would be time to come back into the real world.

"Even players in the Fourth Division are privileged. They are waited on hand and foot and stay in the nicest hotels.

"They have people to clean their boots and others to wash their shirts.

"I'm not disillusioned because I was lucky having working-class values bred into me.

"Earlier this year, my dad died on his way to work. He was 54. You should enjoy what you've got now. You may not be here tomorrow.

"And I have some really brilliant memories from football."

Prominent among them are famous cup victories he and Steven celebrated against Spurs and Liverpool.

Scott said: "We had two fantastic cup runs together and were reaching the quarter-finals of the FA Cup and the semis of the then Milk Cup.

"Trevor was in direct conflict with Ossie Ardiles when we beat Spurs 4-1 at White Hart Lane, including all their big stars like Hoddle, Villa and Archibald.

"And people like Souness, Dalglish and Rush were in the Liverpool team we beat 1-0 in

Now it's a real treasure hunt for Steven

the home leg of our semi.

"Trevor played central midfield as a Burnley youngster. His passing ability and vision on the ball were special then.

"He went past people as if they weren't there. And what he has done is get better and better at the things he did then.

"People in the town still talk about one goal he scored in a cup-tie against Altrincham.

"Trevor glided past two defenders, drew the keeper, dummied him and slipped the ball into the empty net.

Crowd

"It sent tingles down your spine, I was on the subs bench and we all jumped to our feet with the crowd to give him a standing ovation."

It was Scott who first ushered Steven into senior football.

He explained: "I got injured with 15 minutes to go of a Third Division match with Huddersfield.

"Trevor came on for me to make his League debut. We then roomed together and the first thing I noticed was his single-minded approach to games.

"He'd enjoyed himself in moderation as one of the lads on our end-of-season tours.

"But it was different for League games. It was unusual for us to see a lad spend so much time relaxing in his room as Trevor did.

"He'd be last out of bed on the morning of the match for a sip of tea and a bite of toast.

"He prepared himself in the right way and it was only a matter of time before he went into the First Division with Everton.

This is far from Scott's only contact with the top strata of our football.



TREVOR STEVEN

Burnley were a powerful First Division force who missed out on European football only by goal difference at the end of Scott's first senior season in their colours.

He's the son in law of Brian Miller, the one-time Burnley star who won the championship, appeared in an FA Cup Final, reached the quarter final of the European Cup and was capped by England.

Both Scott and Steven played under Miller when he was manager. He is now Burnley's chief scout.

And Scott has seen the departures from

Burnley of Lee Dixon for Arsenal, Brian Laws for Forest and Mike Phelan, for Manchester United.

Career

He was not surprised that Steven pursued his career beyond Goodison Park.

"Trevor was a very private, ambitious person and that's why I always thought he'd leave Rangers and play abroad.

"The only thing I can't understand is why he has only 31 caps and both John Barnes and Chris Waddle have twice that number.

"There hasn't been a better player in Trevor's position since he broke through at the 1986 World Cup.

"When he plays wide, as he learned to do at Everton, you are guaranteed a supply of quality crosses.

"He never fails to impress me. He's never let any team down and he never lets himself down."

You can say the same about Scott who plays sweeper those days for the amateurs of Burnley Bank Hall.

Without, of course, the break that gave him and Steven their earliest pickings.

TURF AT TOP FOR STEVEN

STIRLING ALBION's pint-sized midfielder **Stuart Robertson** saw Trevor Steven fight his way through **FOUR** teams at Turf Moor, writes **Kenny MacDonald**.

Stuart, 32 this week, played alongside Steven when the £5 million ace made his League debut as a 17-year-old against Huddersfield in 1981.

And Stuart recalls: "When I joined Burnley as a 16-year-old they'd just been relegated from the First Division, but were still a big club.

Skill

"That was underlined by the fact they ran four teams — first team, reserves, as well as A and B teams. They had around 40 players on the books.

"Trevor signed up a couple of years after I arrived but he wasn't long in making progress through the grades.

"He hasn't changed much since then. He still has the same physique and the same attributes — excellent stamina and good passing ability.

"As soon as he broke into the Burnley side other clubs were sniffing about. He was a big fish in a small pond and everyone knew he wouldn't stay long."

But £35-a-week Robertson isn't jealous of his former team-mate's success.

"Not at all," he says. "In fact, it's good to see a nice bloke like Trevor making money out of the game."

'It was worthwhile searching the rubbish. We'd often find cash on the terraces'

Ex-Burnley star **DEREK SCOTT**



Romania Euro tie is under threat

SCOTLAND'S vital Euro Championship tie in Romania could be dramatically SWITCHED because of the unrest in the country.

UEFA are watching the situation and could step in and order the October 16 tie to be played in France or Austria.

SFA chief executive Jim Farry revealed: "We have spoken to the British Embassy in Bucharest and sent faxes to UEFA and FIFA to keep them aware of circumstances."

"The Government's advice is that British passport holders should not travel to Romania. We are heeding that at the moment."

■ **STIRLING ALBION** boss John Brogan is set for a comeback.

The 37-year-old — scorer of almost 300 goals in his playing career — came on as a sub for the First Division strugglers against Forfar last week and insists: "I'll try anything to get the team winning again."

■ **HEARTS** and Ipswich are watching Wigan's £300,000 defender Darren Patterson. Joe Jordan had a look at the 21-year-old Ulsterman in action against Sheffield United in midweek.

■ **ST JOHNSTONE** skipper Ray Stewart is out for four weeks with a thigh strain.

Diamonds face rap

AIDRIE skipper Jimmy Sandison and chairman George Peat's remarks following the Skol Cup defeat by Dunfermline will be discussed by the SFA on October 21.

The Diamonds' captain criticised the late penalty decision and Peat suggested referee Davie Syme would not be welcome in the town.

The Airdrie board met at the weekend and are asking that Syme be replaced as referee for next week's Rangers visit but their request will be thrown out by the Scottish League.



MAURICE MALPAS

JAMIE'S TOPS

DUNDEE UTD 2
MOTHERWELL 2

TOMMY McLEAN's Steelmen lived up to their nickname with as tough and gritty a performance as they have served up at Tannadice in years.

They had just one victory to show from 24 previous Premier visits to face the Tangerines.

Joy

And with only five minutes left, brother Jim's United appeared to be heading for a continuation of their win-

ning ways in the fixture.

But up popped star visitor Jamie Dolan to bring a smile to the younger McLean's face with a deserved equaliser.

Said Tommy: "I could not have been more delighted with the fightback, especially in the circumstances."

His reference to circumstances may have referred to a couple of first-half penalty

awards.

Wide

The first, when Chris McCart was adjudged to have fouled Duncan Ferguson, was questionable.

But Ferguson slammed the spot kick award wide.

There was no doubting the legality of the second, when Billy Thomson pulled down new Argentinian striker Victor Ferreyra.

And home skipper Maurice Malpas made no mistake with his kick to edge United in front.

The home joy was shortlived, however, when Ian Angus equalised with a fine finish to an exquisite Dolan-inspired move.

Error

But United were in front again five minutes later, with Ferreyra involved in the thick of things.

His persistence forced a defensive error and Gary Bolland shot home.

Ferreyra's display clearly satisfied home boss Jim McLean, who said: "He was the one plus for us out of the game."

BEST PLAYER: Dolan.

DUNDEE UTD: Main, Clark, Malpas, McNally, Van der Hoorn, Narey, McLaren, McKinlay, Ferreyra, Ferguson, Bolland.

MOTHERWELL: Thomson, Griffin, Nijholt, Dolan, Philliben, McCart, McLeod, Simpson, Cusack, O'Donnell, Angus.

PAT'LL DO FOR HIBS!

HIBS 1 CELTIC 1

HIGH-FLYERS Hibs stretched their unbeaten run to 13 matches — thanks to an eagle-eyed linesman.

Official Bobby Ormond was perfectly placed to spot that Pat McGinlay's late header had crossed the line, despite Steve Fulton's valiant clearance.

It was a controversial moment in an incident-packed thriller but there were no complaints from Celtic boss Liam Brady.

He admitted: "I thought the ball had crossed the line."

A draw capped a remarkable week for Hibs, who knocked Rangers out of the Skol Cup in midweek.

Slipped

But that magnificent effort left the Hibs players jaded and it looked like being unlucky 13 for them as Charlie Nicholas blasted Celtic into the lead six minutes from the interval.

Brady said: "At that point we were in control and at half-time I was very optimistic that we would win."

"Wednesday's effort had obviously taken a lot out of Hibs, but all credit to them. They fought very hard in the second-half."

"Hibs are unbeaten and it would have been nice to have taken their scalp but, at the end of the day, a draw was a fair result."

Hibs manager Alex Miller agreed that the Hampden clash had left his players drained and revealed his secret fear about Celtic's visit.

He said: "Celtic have quite a good record here and I knew they would be coming fresh, having not played in midweek."

"I stressed that to the players but we didn't start well. Celtic were quicker and sharper than us and, at half-time they thoroughly deserved to be in front."

"We did not start playing until the second-half. We gave Celtic too much possession in the first period and lost a very poor goal. Our two centre backs, Tommy McIntyre and Gordon Hunter, were caught napping."

"But after the interval we started making passes and causing them problems. We are delighted with a point because we've had a hard week and the players were tired."

"I couldn't fault our effort, attitude and commitment in the second half — my players have been different class this week."

Celtic's Champagne Charlie was definitely different class.

Apart from this goal, he teased and tormented the Hibs defence with his deft touches before limping off after an hour with a hamstring injury.

Brady said: "I had told him at half-time not to risk it because of our trip to Belgium on



PAUL MCSTAY

Wednesday. Gary Gillespie was not 100 per cent fit either and that is why he was left out."

With Nicholas' departure a lot of the sharpness went out of Celtic's play as Hibs battled back into the match.

McGinlay had seen Pat Bonner grab one header from under the bar and another slipped

just past the post before he snatched his fifth goal of the season nine minutes from time.

And in a dramatic final five minutes little Joe Miller saw a shot crash back off John Burridge's right-hand post while the keeper was forced to race out of his area to tackle Tommy Coyne after a short pass back.

BEST PLAYER: Nicholas.

HIBS: Burridge, Miller, Mitchell, Hunter, McIntyre, MacLeod, Weir, Hamilton, Wright, Evans, McGinlay.

CELTIC: Bonner, Morris, Wdoyczyk, Grant, Galloway, Whyte, Miller, Fulton, Coyne, Nicholas, Collins.

• Paul McStay made his comeback from injury in Celtic Reserves' 2-0 victory over Hibs.

McGraw hits out as Ayr sneak it

BLAZING Morton boss Allan McGraw lashed his side following their 4-3 defeat against Ayr — after they were 3-1 up with 12 minutes left!

He blasted: "The game should have been over at 3-1. Even at 3-3 we couldn't close up shop."

Ayr trainer Dale Roberts said: "We gave away silly goals but came back well."

Morton were hit by a rapid treble from Greg Shaw, Paul McLean and Ian McAllister.

Dundee beat Montrose 2-1, Steve Campbell scoring his second penalty on successive Saturdays.

Thriller

Partick Thistle were also successful away from home, beating Forfar 3-0 with goals from Colin McGlashan, Charlie Adam (own goal) and Ray Farnham.

Boss John Lambie admitted: "Any positive result away from home is a good one."

Meadowbank and Hamilton shared the spoils in a six goal thriller, Willie Irvine netting twice for Thistle.

Kilmarnock and Stirling recorded 1-0 wins. Vinnie Moore getting the vital goals against Raith Rovers and Clydebank.

ABSW BEST FOR SOCCER ACTION



JOCKY'S AGONY



ROY AITKEN

**DUNFERMLINE 1
ST MIRREN 4**
DUNFERMLINE's midweek heroics became merely a memory as they were torn apart by impressive St Mirren.

Although they will compete in the Skol Cup final, Dunfermline remain rooted at the bottom of the league and looking for their first win.

Their shell-shocked manager Jocky Scott offered few excuses:

"What can I say? It was an absolute shambles.

"Rather than lift us, the midweek game had the opposite effect and we looked tired — but there is no excuse."

The Pars took the lead through Davie Moyes in the 16th minute. But despite goalkeeper Andy Rhodes performing... heroics, they were outclassed by lively St Mirren from then on.

The Paisley side equalised through Alan Irvine in 23 minutes. And three second half goals

followed in just seven minutes.

Chic Charnley put them ahead in 59th minutes and four minutes later a Paul Lambert chip made it three.

Julian Broddie added a stunning goal from the left wing.

BEST PLAYER: Lambert.

DUNFERMLINE: Rhodes, Cunningham, Sharp, Kozma, Robertson, McWilliams, McCall, Leitch.

ST MIRREN: Fridge, McGowan, Reid, Aitken, Martin, Manley, Lambert, Morrison, Irvine, Charnley, Broddie.



ALLAN MOORE

Two Turner sparklers dump dull Diamonds

AIRDRIE 1 ST JOHNSTONE 2

SAINTS boss Alex Totten praised his side's fighting qualities after a dramatic second-half comeback earned both points.

It was a sparkling double by striker Tommy Turner in 57 and 72 minutes which settled the issue and completed a miserable week for Airdrie.

Totten said: "We were never in it in the first half, but we showed determination after the interval."

The only black spot for Saints was Harry Curran's dismissal for wasting time.

Totten said: "I have never seen such a decision."

"I feel sorry for the player and will not be punishing him."

All Airdrie had to show for first-half demerit was an Evan Balfour goal.

He completed a fine move by heading home Andy Smith's cross.

But in the second half the Diamonds seemed to have a hangover from the punishing midweek Skol Cup semi-final.

Manager Alex MacDonald said: "We had enough chances in the first half to win easily."

"We knew at the interval that we could be made to suffer."

"We are still looking for our first home league win but luck seems to be against us."

BEST PLAYER: Turner.

AIRDRIE: Martin, Kidd, Stewart, Sandison, Smith, Honor, Boyle, Balfour, Coyle, Lawrence, Black.

ST JOHNSTONE: Hamilton, McGinnis, Baltacha, Cherry, Inglis, Davies, Moore, Turner, Wright, Redford, Curran.



THAT HURTS!

Go for goals and kill them off says Liam



LIAM BRADY

CELTIC will be going all out for goals in Belgium on Tuesday night.

Boss Liam Brady is determined his side should kill off the UEFA Cup challenge of Germinal Ekeren as quickly as possible.

"I expect them to be a lot more positive than they were at Parkhead," said the Celtic chief.

"I'll be sending the players out with a view to getting a goal, because if we do the game will be dead."

Charlie Nicholas scored both Celtic goals in their 2-0 first leg win. The Belgians' English defender Mark Talbot, however, is confident Ekeren can cause an upset in their first-ever home Euro tie - despite the fact they were beaten 4-0 at home by Anderlecht on Friday night.

Says Mark: "We proved at Parkhead we can create chances and I thought we finished fitter than Celtic."

"All we're aiming to do is get a goal in each half and take it to extra-time."

The match is an all-ticket 12,000 sellout.

Meanwhile, Brady ruled out any chances of a Celtic move for Everton's Pat Nevin and played down speculation linking the club with Raith defender Shaun Dennis.

"The talk about Nevin is ridiculous," he said, "Joe Miller's just signed a new contract and he's the same type of player. Whoever's putting that one about is way off the mark."

"As for Dennis, the only time I've seen him was when Raith played us in the Skol Cup - and he didn't stand out."

■ **ALLOA**, who haven't played a home game this season because of delays in the building of their new stand, hope to have the work completed in time for the visit of Dumbarton next week.

RANGERS had a nightmare European Cup build-up as they slumped to their third defeat in four games.

But Aberdeen boss Alex Smith raved: "That's the best we've played at Ibrox since I took over."

Rangers' misery was complete when they were hit by a THIRD Euro injury blow. Striker Mark Hateley was sent to hospital for an X-ray on a shoulder knock last night.

Already Richard Gough and Ian Ferguson are almost certainly out of the Sparta Prague clash. But absent Ally McCoist might make it.

Dons pair Eoin Jess and Brian Grant struck in the last 18 minutes to give classy Aberdeen a fully-deserved win.

The Pittodrie men hustled and harried Rangers out of their stride — and could well have won by more goals.

Smith said: "I was very pleased with the way we played through-

out. We dominated the game for long spells.

"If I could be critical about anything, it was that we didn't finish off our good work. But the goals came at the perfect times."

"However, it might have been very different but for a great save by Theo Snelders from Mark Hateley in the first half and Robert Connor's block from Maurice Johnston right after the first goal."

Smith insisted all is not lost as Aberdeen travel to Denmark looking to overhaul a 1-0 UEFA Cup deficit against BK1903 Copenhagen.

He added: "If we can retain our composure and not go chasing the game in a bid to score an early goal, we can still get through."

Grim-faced Ibrox boss Walter Smith said: "It was similar to Wednesday's Skol Cup game against Hibs — we're not creating chances."

"I have an explanation as to why but I'm keeping it to myself."

His side still looked

Hateley X-ray blow as Gers are humbled

hung over from that surprise midweek defeat.

Aberdeen cut off the supply lines from midfield so well that most Rangers attacks boiled down to high balls towards Hateley.

And they were easily gobbled up by Irvine and outstanding little big man Stewart McKimmie.

By comparison, Aberdeen's crisp tackling and swift passing moves always had the makeshift Rangers defence looking uneasy.

Rangers had no answer when Dons hit them with a late double. First Theo Ten Caat — "his best game" said Smith — and Scott Booth combined.

When the Dutchman teed up Jess, the 20-year-old was all alone to

lash the ball high past Andy Goram.

Fire

Then four minutes from time, Booth released sub Willem van der Ark on the right.

When his cross came in, the Rangers defence was in disarray and Grant had time to side-step Scott Nisbet and fire home.

The Dons also had a penalty appeal rejected when the ball ran up Nisbet's arm.

BEST PLAYER: McKimmie.

RANGERS: Goram, Stevens, D. Robertson, Brown, Spackman, Nisbet, McCall, S. Robertson, Hateley, Johnston, Mikhailichenko.

ABERDEEN: Snelders, Mason, Connor, Grant, Irvine, McKimmie, Van de Van, Bett, Booth, Ten Caat, Jess.

JOE'S AWAY JOY

**FALKIRK 1
HEARTS 2**

HEARTS boss Joe Jordan left Brockville a happy man as the Tynecastle side recorded their fifth away win of the season to keep them firmly at the top of the table.

And he admitted that it was sometimes easier to win out of the capital than it was in front of the Tynecastle faithful.

"There is a difference when teams arrive

at Tynecastle and wait. We've found it hard when they sit back, whereas away from home teams try to open up. And when they do that we produce the football."

Scott Crabbe was first to make his mark last weekend when he shot Hearts in front after only eight minutes.

John Robertson set up Tosh McKinlay whose effort was blocked by Ian Westwater only for Crabbe to bury the rebound into the net.

Simon Stainrod tried desperately to get Falkirk back into things and almost set up Sammy McGivern with a great back post cross.

And in 32 minutes Stainrod played his part in the move which brought the Bairnes' equaliser from Kevin McAllister.

The winner came five minutes before the interval when Steve Pen-

ney crossed for John Millar to fire home.

Falkirk had most of the second half action but failed to take their openings, through it took an excellent save from Henry Smith to keep McAllister out in the closing minutes.

"What we need is someone who can stick the ball away," said Bairns boss Jim Jeffries.

"We made the chances and didn't take them, and we must start doing that."

BEST PLAYER: Stainrod.

FALKIRK: Westwater, Duffy, McQueen, Hughes, Baple, May, McAllister, Taylor, McGivern, Stainrod, Smith.

HEARTS: Smith, Hogg, McKinlay, Levein, McKay, McPherson, Crabbe, Ferguson, Baird, Millar, Robertson.

Wobbling Walter blows it

OXFORD 3
PLYMOUTH 2

PLYMOUTH goalkeeper Dave Walter had a nightmare match as his team threw away their victory chance.

■ They led 2-1 with the seconds ticking away after Martin Barlow fired in a stunning 15-yard half volley six minutes from the end.

But Walter missed a cross from substitute Joey Beauchamp and Paul Simpson drilled home an equaliser.

■ Poor Walter made a real hash of a cross from Simpson a minute later and David Penney stabbed in the simple winner.

■ They trailed to a 15th minute goal by Lee Nogan, but stepped up a gear in the second half.

Mark Fiore tucked home a deserved equaliser after Oxford goalkeeper Ken Veysey struggled to hold a fierce Steve Morgan free kick.

■ But wobbly Walter made all their hard work worthless.

Fyfe pair is in vain

CARLISLE 3
WALSALL 3

■ CARLISLE tossed away a two-goal lead and were lucky to draw.

Tony Fyfe and Andy Barnsley put United ahead with a shot and a penalty.

■ But Rodney McDonald and Colin Anderson levelled it.

Local lad Fyfe fired Carlisle back into the lead but his work was undone by Paul McLoughlin's equaliser.

TORQUAY UTD 3 CHESTER CITY 2

☆ **INJURY-HIT** Torquay ended their nightmare of nine defeats on the trot in this five-goal thriller. They even called up youth team boss Paul Compton for his first League game in five years.

But it was midfielder Mike Fillery, on loan from First Division Oldham, who was the real difference between the two sides as he orchestrated most of Torquay's moves.

☆ Mickey Holmes opened the scoring in the eighth minute, apprentice Duane Darby, 17, struck 11 minutes later and joint top scorer Matthew Elliott hit the third in the 52nd minute.

Eddie Bishop and Stuart Rimmer replied for Chester.



GARETH HOWELLS



ROBBO'S THE

BRYAN ROBSON tightened United's grip on the First Division and boosted their chances of a first Championship success for a quarter of a century.

But there were only four minutes left when he grabbed the winner with Spurs down to ten men after Paul Stewart had been sent off.

United skipper Robson struck with a perfect header from a free-kick by substitute Clayton Blackmore to decide the issue.

And it seemed only right Robson should emerge as the hero of a frantic game, for he was the dominant personality and looked back to his peak England form.

It was no surprise United came up trumps for in the closing stages they gave depleted Spurs the runaround.

Raced

Teenager Ryan Giggs should have scored 11 minutes from time when he robbed David Tuttle 30 yards out and raced away with only goalkeeper Ian Walker to beat.

A goal looked absolutely certain but Giggs, who had a splendid game, tried to chip the ball home and was foiled by Walker's acrobatic save.

Yet until Stewart departed — dismissed for his second bookable offence — there were moments when United's unbeaten record looked vulnerable.

They had faded after controlling the first half and suddenly found themselves under pressure.

In the 67th minute, Gary Lineker teed up a chance for Nayim, whose rocket drive flashed just wide of the far post.

And a minute later a short free kick by Vinny Samways enabled Gordon Durie to smash an effort narrowly wide.

But, at their best, United showed why they are having such a splendid season.

Driven on by Robson, and with Paul Ince linking perfectly with him in midfield, they were full of power and pace for long spells.

Spurs.....1 Man U....2

Spurs' rearguard had been caught napping when Mark Hughes shot United ahead after 21 minutes.

The home defenders all hesitated as Giggs delivered a perfect through ball and Hughes burst clear unchallenged.

With keeper Walker flat-footed on his line, Hughes drove the ball beyond him into the net.

It was the second time Hughes had got clear. As early as the second minute he should have scored following a quick free-kick by Robson but from point-blank range he drove the ball wide of the near post.

United made most of the first-half running with the lively Giggs always a menace and Spurs at full stretch.

He had one tremendous shot tipped over the bar by Walker and sent in a couple of dangerous crosses.

But, out of the blue, Spurs equalised in the

IT'S A DOUBLE, SCOTT

EXETER 2 READING 1

SCOTT DANIELS grabbed two goals as Exeter extended their unbeaten run to six games.

But Reading came close to getting a share of the spoils in a game that could easily have gone either way.

Reading should have gone ahead in the 56th minute but Stuart Lovell hit the bar from point-blank range. Lovell made amends a minute later, collecting a Scott Taylor pass before firing home.

Exeter equalised within a minute when Paul Wimbleton crossed from the left and

big defender Daniels scored with a powerful header.

They grabbed the winner in the 77th minute. Scott Hiley's cross opened up the Reading defence, Tom Kelly pushed a pass to Daniels and his shot took a deflection into the net.



BRYAN ROBSON

39th minute. The move was started by a Samways free-kick and carried on by Nayim, with the United defenders on the retreat.

Lineker nipped in to lob the ball over the

head of keeper Peter Schmeichel and Durie was waiting to smash it into the net.

BEST PLAYER: Robson.

TOTTENHAM: Walker,

Bergsson, Sedgely, Nayim, Tuttle, Mabbutt, Stewart, Durie, Samways, Lineker, Allen.

MAN UTD: Schmeichel, Phelan, Irwin, Bruce, Kanchelskis, Palister, Robson, Ince, McClair, Hughes, Giggs.

WRIGHT TRICK

SOUTHAMPTON 0
ARSENAL 4

IAN WRIGHT met the stiffest challenge in League soccer with a stunning second-half hat-trick.

The former Crystal Palace striker had wondered how to make an instant impact with the champions when George Graham splashed out £2.5million for him.

But since signing last Monday, Wright has provided all the answers himself. A Rum-belows Cup debut goal kept him in against Southampton and left Kevin Campbell on the subs bench.

Suddenly, any self-doubts that Wright might have had, have been wiped away. His hat-trick was a ruthless display of clinical finishing.

Ian's treble stuns Saints

Southampton's resistance was left in shreds as early as the 53rd minute after Wright had scored his first two goals in the space of five minutes.

The first was set up by Anders Limpar and Southampton's defence was virtually non-existent.

Slammed

Wright's second stemmed from a flick pass by Alan Smith but still demanded a precision finish by the skilful Wright.

Smith also made the hat-trick goal but when his shot was well saved by Tim Flowers, it was the predatory Wright who slammed home the loose ball at an angle.

But Arsenal's half-time lead was rough justice for a Southampton side that had played two-thirds of the first 45 minutes in Arsenal's half.

They never looked like a side that has started the season badly and might well have taken the lead well before David Rocastle's strike.

The goal itself was a bitter disappointment for Flowers who had done extremely well to make a one-handed save from Wright after Rocastle had broken away. When the ball ran loose Rocastle struck quickly.

BEST PLAYER: Wright.
SOTON: Flowers, Dodd, Gray, Horne, Hall, Rud-dock, Le Tissier, Cocke-rill, Shearer, Dowle, Lee.

ARSENAL: Seaman, Dixon, Winterburn, Thomas, Linighan, T Adams, Rocastle, Wright, Smith, Merson, Limpar.

WIGAN 1
DARLINGTON 2

SUBSTITUTE John Borthwick struck a dramatic injury-time winner to give Darlington the points.

☆ It seemed as if a 90th minute equaliser from Wigan's Gary Powell was going to deny brave Darlington.

But with four minutes of time added on played, David Cork sprinted clear down the right and crossed for Borthwick to slide in the score with virtually his first touch.

☆ It was a deserved victory for Frank Gray's side who had played the better football in a game ruined by the breeze.

Darlington were ahead as early as the ninth minute. A free-kick from Gary Hamilton found the Wigan defence flat-footed.

Limping Nick to rescue

SWINDON TOWN 3
WATFORD 1

SWINDON swept through the driving rain to stylishly step up their challenge at the top of Division Two thanks to injured keeper Nick Hammond.

At half-time they were cruising with a 2-0 lead, but they had to weather a storming second-half Watford fight-back, despite trying to protect hobbling Hammond.

Hammond took a knock in the first half as he made a brilliant save, throwing himself at the feet of Luther Blissett, and then bravely carried on.

Swindon took an eighth-minute lead when Micky Hazard found space in midfield and worked the ball through to Duncan Shearer who turned and drove the ball home.

And they went further in front right on half-time when Hazard's corner was headed in by Fitzroy Simpson.

Midway through the second half hero Hammond was finally beaten when Gary Porter hammered in a 25-yarder which the Swindon keeper could only get a hand to.

But Swindon came

back to clinch the match with a third goal nine minutes from the end.

Another Hazard corner brought panic to the Watford goalmouth, and after Simpson had his shot blocked, defender Shaun Taylor charged in to drive the ball past helpless James.

BEST PLAYER: Hammond.

SWINDON: Hammond, Jones, Summerbee, Hoddle, Calderwood, Taylor, Hazard, Shearer, Simpson, MacLaren, White.

WATFORD: James, Gibbs, Drysdale, Dublin, McLaughlin, Bazley, Has-senthaler, Blissett, Butler, Porter, Nicholas.

BARNET 3 CARDIFF 1

☆ **CARDIFF** gifted Barnet the points with three defensive mistakes as Gary Bull scored two simple goals to take his season's tally to 13.

An elaborate backheel by Pat Heard let in Gary Poole to cross for Paul Showler to poke in Barnet's first after 30 minutes.

☆ Four minutes later Mark Jones brought down Showler and Bull converted the penalty. City pulled one back before the interval through Carl Dale.

Six minutes before the close tragedy struck the Welshmen again when Damon Searle underhit a back pass which Bull intercepted to arrogantly stroke home.

Legg does the work

SWANSEA 1
PETERBOROUGH 0

ANDREW LEGG was again the hero of Swans as they picked up their first league win of the season.

Legg added to his goal against Monaco in the Cup Winners' Cup

with a 59th minute cracker that was enough to bury Peterborough.

Swans were floundering in the waterlogged conditions until Russell Coughlin's diagonal ball found the lively Legg.

The winger's snap shot flew between the legs of Noel Luke before going in off the far post.

The win was watched by 2,865 — the lowest Swansea crowd of the season.

RAGGED ROVERS THROW IT AWAY

BRIGHTON 3
BRISTOL ROV 1

CARL SAUNDERS gave Rovers the lead — but Brighton roared back to leave them with one point from five away games.

Saunders pounced in the 26th minute when he raced on to a flick from Devon White and struck from 10 yards.

Rovers were stunned moments before the interval when Robert Codner equalised with a low shot.

Codner struck again three minutes into the second half with the cheekiest of goals.

A clearance from Steve Cross fell kindly off Dean Wilkins' backside and he scored with a low drive.

Parkin denied Codner a hat-trick when he went full length to push a shot round the post.

Brighton skipper Wilkins went off when he was elbowed in the face by Cross.

And John Byrne sealed their win five minutes from time, heading in a cross by Mark Bartham.

BEST PLAYER: Byrne.

DIV ON TOP

	P	W	D	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	10	8	2	18	3	26
Leeds	10	5	6	16	6	20
Arsenal	10	5	2	23	16	17
Sheff W	10	5	2	16	11	17
Chelsea	11	4	5	19	15	17



JOHN HARKES

HEAD MAN!



STEVE McMAHON: back on deck

LIVERPOOL 1
SHEFF W 1

YANK John Harkes headed Liverpool out of the winning boost they wanted before going back into Europe.

And on this showing the Kop kings will be even more thankful they take a five-goal UEFA Cup cushion to the Finns of Kuusysi Lahti this week.

It was another Jekyll and Hyde showing by Graeme Souness's outfit.

The were full value for the lead given them by Ray Houghton's smash and grab 17th minute strike.

With Steve McMahon back to command the middle and Ian Rush looking sharp and hungry, they could have put the game out of Wednesday's reach before the break.

Escaped

Then Liverpool lost control and nearly the game.



Wednesday took over, driving forward, and thoroughly earned Harkes' 67th minute leveller.

The American, 12 yards out, stuck his crew-cut on to Nigel Worthington's left-wing cross and sent the ball like a bullet past Bruce Grobelaar.

Harkes almost made it worse for Liverpool. Right on time, his low cross found Carlton Palmer stealing in and a piledriver of a shot cleared the angle by inches.

Steve McManaman would have had a penalty in the first minute if he had been less honest.

The matchstick man was shoved by Roland Nilsson but Mac didn't go down and Wednes-

American Harkes holes the Kop aces

day escaped.

Wednesday hit trouble in the 17th minute when Dean Saunders embarrassed centre-back Nigel Pearson.

The striker looked like breaking through when he was obstructed. McMahon's 25 yard blast from David Burrows' tapped free kick was so fierce Chris Woods could only push

clear and Houghton's shot was deadly despite the angle.

Rush had a header saved and Houghton was close before Wednesday got their act together.

Then, three times in three minutes, they were held up by the superb defence of Steve Nicol and McMahon.

BEST PLAYER: Nicol.

LIVERPOOL: Grobbelaar, Harkness, Burrows, Nicol, Marsh, Tanner, Saunders, Houghton, Rush, McManaman, McMahon.

SHEFF WED: Woods, Nilsson, King, Palmer, Warhurst, Pearson, Wilsson, Harkes, Jemson, Williams, Worthington.



JIMMY'S JOLTER

BRISTOL CITY 0
PORTSMOUTH 2

BRISTOL City boss Jimmy Lumsden, lost his cool as his lacklustre outfit crashed to defeat.

Referee David Elle-

ray had already incensed home supporters by awarding Portsmouth a controversial 43rd minute spot kick when he penalised Andy Llewellyn after the wet ball whipped up onto his hand.

A furious Lumsden had

to be restrained by colleagues as he leapt from the dugout to vent his frustration. Mr Ellerey decided a lecture was sufficient punishment.

The manager might have saved his anger for his own lethargic team, who were comprehensively out-played by an impressive young Pompey outfit.

John Beresford shot the visitors ahead from Colin Clarke's knock-down in the 34th minute and added the second from the penalty spot.

In the slippery conditions, it looked a harsh decision when Gus Caesar was judged to have pushed Clarke. That didn't worry Beresford who smashed his shot well beyond the reach of Keith Welch.

But for Welch, Por-

smouth would have been ever easier winners.

He made brilliant late saves from Mark Chamberlain and Steve Wigley as the defence in front of him fell apart.

City's first-half performance was easily the worst of their season. City's problems increased when they lost skipper Gary Shelton through injury in the 17th minute.

BEST PLAYER: Chamberlain.

BRISTOL CITY: Welsh, Llewellyn, Scott, May, Bryant, Caesar, Shelton, Rennie, Allison, Morgan, Smith.

PORTSMOUTH: Knight, Awford, Beresford, Burns, Simons, Butters, Neill, Chamberlain, Clarke, Wigley, Anderson.

Tosh in real Tiss

MATT LE TISSIER has been valued at a club record £3 million by Southampton.

■ And the hefty fee has scared off John Toshack's Real Sociedad, who are strapped for cash.

Frank Stapleton, once short-listed to boss Celtic, wants the vacant Blackburn job if Kenny Dalglish says "No".

■ Frank Worthington has joined tiny Anglesey club Cemaes Bay.

The Sealink Stenna Welsh Alliance outfit have also recruited three more ex-England men — Terry McDermott, David Johnson and coach Chris Lawler.

Heritage in a hurry

HERFORD 3
LINCOLN 0

STRIKER Peter Heritage hit the quickest ever goal at Edgar Street.

After 14 seconds he collected a header flick from Simon Brian to shoot past keeper Ian Bowling.

In the 13th minute Grant Brown brought down Brain Bowling pushed Jon Narbett's penalty onto a post but the midfielder tapped in the rebound.

Steve Lowndes hit the third in the 38th minute.

BURY 1 HARTLEPOOL 1

SUPERSUB Ricardo Gabbadini was Hartlepool's hero as they sickened Bury with a late salvage operation — for the second time this season.

Only a month ago an 85th-minute equaliser from Hartlepool, who have never won

at Gigg Lane, knocked Bury out of the Rumbelows Cup on aggregate.

And United were at it again last weekend, snatching a valuable away League point with a leveller ten minutes from the end of a keen contest with a low skip factor.

Gabbadini replaced assistant mana-

ger David McCreary on 69 minutes to grab the hero's mantle.

Ironically, Gabbadini's volley followed a botched clearance by Bury sub Alan Knill.

Bury got off to a flying start after ten minutes with Colin Greenall's third goal in successive home games.

ACTION SPECIAL: ABSW — best in the world for soccer

COME BACK STEVENS

Kendall
set to
welcome
Gary to
Everton



Gary Stevens for Everton.

GARY STEVENS is on his way home to Everton.

The 28-year-old Glasgow Rangers full-back looks poised to move out of Ibrox Park to make way for Maurice Malpas.

WELCOME

And Goodison Park boss Howard Kendall, looking for a steady right back, will be ready to welcome Stevens' return to Merseyside.

Stevens joined Graeme Souness in Scotland for £1 million in July 1988, and it will probably take the same size cheque to get him back.

Rangers will reluctantly sacrifice Stevens as part of their squad reshuffle forced on them by new European qualifying rules.

CONTRACT

He'll follow Anglos who have already left this season — Trevor

Steven, Chris Woods, Terry Hurlock and Mark Walters.

Stevens extended his Rangers contract to 1996 last June, but the chance to prise Scottish Footballer of the Year Malpas from Dundee United is irresistible.

The 29-year-old Malpas has 43 caps and has been with Dundee United since 1979.

Kendall sent Scot Stuart McCall in the opposite direction for £1.2 million last August.

WRIGHT ON-IAN BLASTS SAINTS

IAN WRIGHT could do no wrong at the weekend.

He plundered a hat-trick in 27 minutes at Southampton and had Arsenal manager George Graham parading a self-satisfied beam.

But Kevin Campbell, the young blue-eyed boy of the Gunners forward-line up to this weekend, was left to sit frustrated on the bench.

New man Wright dominated a 4-0 triumph — but Campbell will get back in for Europe on Wednesday.

Wright, bought from Crystal Palace for £2.5 million last Wednesday is cup-tied.

Wright scored in the Rumbelows Cup against Leicester on his debut.

UNITED DOWN SPURS

MANCHESTER UNITED still have plenty of daylight in their slipstream at the top of the First Division.

They won 2-1 against Spurs who had Paul Stewart sent off for two bookable offences.

LIVERPOOL continue to look as shaky as a tent in a hurricane and drew 1-1 against Sheffield Wednesday at Anfield.

It's le chop for Waddle



CHRIS WADDLE

CHRIS Waddle was given the axe as Marseille closed the gap at the top of the French First Division.

The England winger was left out for the 1-1 draw at Auxerre — a result which took Marseille to within a point of leaders Monaco.

Waddle's chop came after a furious club president Ber-

nard Tapie had blasted Marseille's poor performance in the 1-1 home draw against Lens the previous week.

★ Northern Ireland keeper Tommy Wright has pleaded with Newcastle boss Ossie Ardiles: "Put me out of my misery and find me a new club."

Ardiles has not given Wright a shot in the first team since

succeeding Jim Smith last March.

★ And 28-year-old Wright fumed: "I have won five caps for Northern Ireland over the past two years and I have simply had a gutful of turning up straight from Newcastle Reserves."

"Ardiles has simply refused to give me a chance. I just can't take any more. It's one long nightmare: totally soul destroying."

Souness stalking Forest's Gas Parker



GRAEME SOUNESS

LIVERPOOL boss Graeme Souness has earmarked Nottingham Forest's Garry Parker as his next major target.

★ Souness has already had a £750,000 offer for the England B midfielder man turned down by Forest manager Brian Clough.

But he's likely to be back for the player who went on the transfer list at his own request after being unable to command a place in Forest's starting line-up this season.

★ The 26-year-old former Luton star won back his slot in the last two matches following an injury to Scot Gemmill but his long-term future is uncertain.

Clough said: "We've had so many injuries in the last couple of weeks that the last thing I am thinking of at the moment is selling players."

★ LEICESTER full-back Gary Mills and central defender Tony James face late fitness tests before boss Brian Little names his side for at the weekend's game at Cambridge.

THIS WEEK ON SBS

YOUR SOCCER STATION

Saturday, October 5

★ World Soccer — 5.30pm

★ Main match: England v Germany — A friendly at Wembley between the world champions and the 1990 semi-finalists. A re-match of their dramatic semi-final in Turin.

Sunday, October 6

★ Italian Soccer — 10.30am

★ One hour reviewing last weekend in the highly acclaimed Italian league. Features a main match and all the goals in the First Division.

European Football — 11.30am

★ Main match: Glasgow Rangers v Aberdeen — top of the Premier Division clash in Scotland.

KEEP GOING FOR MORE BIG EURO SOCCER NEWS